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Confrontation with unions expected

Byers scraps minimum wage rules

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

STEPHEN BYERS is risking his first confrontation with the trade unions by allowing employers to escape the need to keep special records to show that they are observing the national minimum wage.

And the Industry Secretary has scrapped plans for details of the minimum wage to accompany every payslip.

Mr Byers has concluded that the regulations as they stand would be too burdensome and costly for industry and that the publicity surrounding the launch of the minimum wage on April 1 will be enough to inform people of their entitlements.

The changes will infuriate union leaders who believe that publishing minimum wage statements and keeping specific records will be crucial to enforcement. But they will enhance Mr Byers's pro-business credentials, since they will save companies about £200 million a year.

Mr Byers last week ordered the Department of Trade and Industry to review all regulations as they affected employers, to root out unnecessary red tape, and he has astonished officials with his swift ruling that the changes should be made to the minimum wage rules that are being published this week, possibly today.

Under the regulations, drawn up by officials in accordance with standing DTI

practice, employers would have been required to send every employee a 250-word statement with their payslip giving details of the minimum wage (£3.60 an hour for over-21s, £3 for 18-21 year olds, and £3.20 for trainees over 22) and an explanation of their rights.

It would have gone to every one — from cleaner to Cabinet minister. Mr Byers has concluded that is unnecessary and that people will be made fully aware of their rights through media coverage and government advertisements.

The Industry Secretary has also decided to drop the specific requirement on employers to keep records solely on the minimum wage. These would have included details for every employee on gross and net pay, overtime, holidays, advance and other matters.

Mr Byers has told colleagues that he is satisfied that existing records that firms have to keep will be sufficient to show that they are observing the law and that an extra set of forms is unnecessary.

A third change ordered by Mr Byers is the scrapping of the requirement on employers to keep special records for people who work unusual hours such as teachers, school meals supervisors and cleaners who work at schools during term-time. Their minimum wage entitlements will be based on the hours they spend working,

but there will be no need for separate records.

The moves will enhance Mr Byers's reputation as one of the Cabinet's leading Blairites. He upset some on the Left recently when, in his first keynote speech as Industry Secretary, he declared that wealth creation was more important than wealth redistribution.

They will also reassure industrialists who regretted the departure of Mr Byers's predecessor Peter Mandelson, who established a strong pro-business reputation in his short time at the department. But they may increase union suspicions about Mr Byers which have lingered since he told journalists at a Labour conference that he thought the party might sever its links with the unions.

After the early success of his new crusade against red tape, Mr Byers has told officials to look at a range of other directives and regulations to see whether savings to business can be made.

A DTI source said: "The regulations are overdone. Everything has to be gold-plated. Everyone knows about the minimum wage and to require this huge amount of bureaucracy would have been quite unacceptable."

"But the review is only just under way. No stone will be left unturned as look for more red tape to remove from the system."



Katrina Bovill's portrait of Earl Percy, who will have to wait 11 years for his inheritance

Duke acts to save his son from too much too young

By CHRISTINE MIDDAP

ONE of Britain's wealthiest men yesterday won High Court approval to defer his son's inheritance to protect him from the dangers of having too much money too young.

Earl Percy, 14, the eldest son of the 12th Duke of Northumberland, was to have received £250,000 a year from the £13.5 million Albury Estate in Surrey when he turned 18.

But the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland thought it would be dangerous and irresponsible for him to have so much money at such a young age. The court was told that the Eton schoolboy could be exposed to "spongers", and was reminded of the fate of the Marquess of Bristol, who inherited more than £1 million at 18 and died of chronic drug abuse last month aged 44.

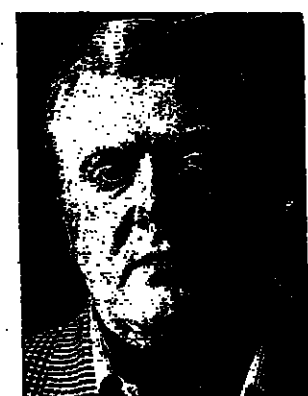
The court was also reminded of the boy's uncle, the flamboyant 11th Duke of Northumberland, who died aged 42 after taking an accidental overdose of prescription amphetamines in 1995.

Mark Herbert, QC, representing the Duchess, said the perception in the family was that the 11th Duke had not been made happy by wealth and his brother, Ralph, who inherited his title wanted to protect his son from the vices, obstacles and dangers of wealth.

Edward Davidson, QC, representing the Duke, said that there was no suggestion that he was being a heavy-handed father who wanted to keep his son in his place. "The boy would still enjoy ample funds, well beyond that of most of us", and suitable protection from harm. "This man is not

going to be deprived of any money that he can sensibly use."

Mr Herbert said the Duchess also believed it would be "criminal" to allow her son his full entitlement at 18. He said that George Percy was a "normal 14-year-old" who had not been shown to be irresponsible or incapable. "He is a clever boy, hardworking and ambitious to cope with the real



The 11th Duke: wealth did not bring him happiness

world and make his own way in it."

There were 13 defendants to yesterday's action, including Earl Percy's younger brother and two sisters. Their lawyers all supported the move to vary the family's Will Trust, which was approved by Mr Justice Pumfrey.

Earl Percy will now not receive his income until he is 25, but will instead receive what he "reasonably needs", as determined by trustees, from his 18th birthday.

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Bleeding heart Tories find Straw a touch too totalitarian

Spoolily, hundreds in the Commons chamber were thinking the same thing yesterday, but only one dared voice it. "What if...?"

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, had described what he called "new measures to protect the public from dangerous people" — and nobody called it "detention without trial". He was moderate and careful in his argument.

Nor could anyone call Mr Straw a fascist, few would even describe him as right-wing, and nobody thinks new Labour are Nazis. Yet there

can hardly have been a parliamentary observer yesterday who did not, however momentarily, reflect on the rise of the Third Reich and wonder — at once dismissing the thought — how the very first steps on what became a journey to totalitarianism might have looked to observers at the time.

There was a measure of support yesterday for Mr Straw's ideas, and a measure of unease. Both came equally from both sides.

Some support was unserved. Gerry Bermingham

(Lab, St Helens S) offered a lawyerly and around welcome. Sir Norman Fowler, Straw's Shadow, went further, casually overturning 1,000 years of English criminal jurisprudence. "It cannot be right," he declared, "to have people in the community where there is a very real belief they are a danger". A Roman Procurator of Judaea once reached a similar conclusion.

Sir Norman went to on call for appeared to for life sentences for sex offenders and a reversal of the ordinary presumption: "offenders should



not be released unless we can be confident they will not reoffend". Hmm.

For the Liberal Democrats, Simon Hughes, who is making a habit of shying at the final fence, galloped confidently up to the sticks (Straw's plan would be "widely agreed") and then slithered whinnying into the mud: its terms would have to be defined "sufficiently tightly". This was not "to be treated lightly" — was it? Astonishingly, Straw agreed not.

Among the doubters there were the predictables. To shouts of "no", Tony Benn spoke of Northern Ireland, Internment, and Soviet justice. Ann Clwyd (Lab, Cynon Valley) recalled her own doubts on a mental health tribunal,

trying (without confidence) to assess human dangerousness. Gwyneth Dunwoody (Lab, Crewe and Nantwich) was a less expected sceptic. Justified or not, the plan was "an abuse of human rights". Mrs Dunwoody, a commonsense conservative of Labour's old school, is no bleeding-heart liberal, and her question raised eyebrows.

As did Virginia Bottomley's. Welcoming Straw's ideas, she then unwelcomed them, calling the Government a dedicated follower of fashion and wondering how

strong was the underlying case. To be attacked from the Left by Mrs Bottomley is confusing.

For the Tories' Jacqui Lait (Beckenham), who also stopped short of opposing the idea, the plan "reeked of incarceration". To be attacked from the Left by anyone from Beckenham is deeply confusing: your sketchwriter, the grandson of a Beckenham family butcher, can testify to this.

But it was the attack from Reigate that stunned. Crispin Blunt, the town's Tory MP, went straight for the jugular.

The Home Secretary's proposals surrendered to the "something-must-be-done" tendency "and the tabloid press". Did Straw not realise that these forces would now exert "enormous pressure to eliminate all risks"? Either Mr Blunt is a very plucky fellow, or Reigate is capable of liberal doubt or possibly both.

Backbench MPs are rough-and-ready philosophers, yet sensitive to unseen but potent frontiers. Yesterday afternoon Jack Straw may have sensed himself coming uncomfortably close to one of these.

Best doctors and nurses to get more pay

By Jill Sherman and Ian Murray

BRITAIN'S best nurses and doctors will be rewarded with higher wages under a reform of NHS pay structures announced yesterday.

Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, unveiled plans to introduce the first stages of performance-related pay and to allow local managers to set their own pay rates. The proposals infuriated the health service unions and the Royal College of Nursing, which has long resisted performance pay and local pay bargaining.

Teaching unions have already served warning that they will try to block government attempts to introduce merit pay. Unison, the public service union, said it was "disgusted and dismayed".

Ann Widdecombe, the Shadow Health Secretary, accused the Government of a U-turn and claimed it had merely hijacked Tory policy to introduce local pay bargaining.

Currently nurses' and doctors' pay is linked to length of service. The most skilled will now be able to leapfrog over colleagues into higher pay grades.

Some 500,000 doctors and nurses will for the first time be able to get extra pay for "com-

petence", taking on extra responsibilities and gaining new skills. Top performing medical teams and hospitals will be eligible for bonuses, and senior nurses and doctors will have individual performance pay.

The plans — set out in a consultation document, *Agenda for Change* — will also allow managers to set pay locally and determine where new staff should join pay scales.

Health department officials denied that this would be a move back to local pay bargaining, introduced briefly by the Tories in the late 1980s and strongly opposed by Labour. It failed because appeals by thousands of nurses who thought they had been unfairly treated caused long delays in awards.

Under the new system, which will be negotiated with the unions and the health service professions, the separate nurses' and doctors' pay review bodies will still determine pay nationally. But hospital managers will be given the powers to top up payments locally where there are retention or recruitment difficulties or where they can reward staff for good performance.

Health officials insisted that

the report makes the first moves towards an element of performance-related pay but that pay based only on performance would be confined to most senior staff.

The document proposes that the hundreds of existing pay scales and grades should be merged into three national pay scales, one for doctors and dentists, one for staff covered by the Nursing Pay Review Body and one for other staff. Pay bands would then be decided in negotiation with unions and employers.

The paper also signals that in future nurses would be able to take over some of the responsibilities of junior doctors to allow much more flexibility in nurses' duties. Frank Dobson said the pay system would give better career progression, modern conditions of service, and a fair basis for pay rises within a national framework.

The RCN welcomed a commitment to a national pay framework, but said there must be no return to local agreements. "While we are willing to explore some flexibility to take account of local factors, we must have strong safeguards to ensure all nurses are fairly treated."



Helen Palmer, left, and Lesley Cannon, right, outside court after the judge ruled that the hospital had been negligent

Damages for smear failures

Women whose cervical problems were missed will receive substantial payouts, reports Richard Duce

THREE women are to receive damages after a judge ruled yesterday that failure to spot the early signs of cervical cancer during routine smear tests had been negligent.

The women, one of whom does not have children, are now infertile. Although the judge said that his ruling should not alarm other women, Sarah Harman, solicitor for the three, said the evidence had highlighted unacceptable dif-

ferences in screening standards around Britain.

Helen Palmer, Lesley Cannon and Sandra Penney will return to court later this year for damages to be assessed after the ruling by Judge Phipps, QC, sitting as a High Court judge in Canterbury, that East Kent Health Authority was liable.

All three were screened at Kent and Canterbury Hospital, which was the subject of an inquiry more than a year ago when some 90,000 cases were reviewed because of false negative reporting at the smear test laboratory. The failings at the laboratory have contributed to eight deaths, 30 hysterectomies and treatment

for hundreds of other women. Compensation of more than £1 million has already been paid to some 50 women.

At the damages hearing Mrs Palmer, 36, Mrs Cannon, 39, and Mrs Penney will for the first time tell a judge how an unexpected diagnosis of cancer affected their lives. Previous evidence has been from expert witnesses only.

Mrs Palmer and Mrs Cannon already have children and can expect damages of about £30,000. Mrs Penney, who had to have a hysterectomy, had no children and her damages are expected to be about £50,000.

Mrs Cannon, who has seven children, said after the

hearing: "I didn't know if I was going to live or die and we didn't need to go through this in court as well. I hope the case will set new standards for screening across the country."

Doctors for the women had argued that screeners should have spotted abnormalities in the smear tests and at least asked for a rescreen if not referred them to a consultant.

Doctors for the health authority said that even with the advances in screening over the last few years the smear tests would still be regarded as negative or border line by a competent screener.

Jim Smith, chief executive of Kent and Canterbury NHS Trust, said later: "These were cases where the expert advice said we should contest liability. I'm saddened that the women had to go through this." A further 11 cases where liability was at issue will be reviewed in light of the ruling, he said.

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Olympic sponsors want Samaranch to step down

By John Goodbody and Devlin Barrett

THE biggest sponsors of the Olympics want Juan Antonio Samaranch to resign as President of the International Olympic Committee because the Games have become tarnished by the "cash-for-votes" scandal.

A closed meeting in New York last week of at least five sponsors, who are contributing £150 million over four years to the Olympic movement, demanded "a very pub-

lic, very substantive show of change." They believe that this could best be achieved by the former Spanish diplomat, who has been president since 1980, stepping down.

One source at the meeting said: "Nobody stood, shook their fist and said that Samaranch must go, but the undercurrent of the meeting was that the sponsors felt that he should go."

Olympic officials were present to hear the views of their leading supporters. Nervous Kodak, Coca-Cola, McDon-

ald's, UPS, the delivery company, and John Hancock, the insurance company, were all there.

Another sponsor, who declined to be identified, said: "Everyone is appalled. Everyone wants action now. There is nothing to be gained in going public with that right now but at some point the sponsors' patience will run out."

The sponsors disagreed on whether the changes in the IOC should come this week or at the March meeting in Switzerland.

Psychopaths to be locked up

Continued from page 1

keep predatory paedophiles such as Robert Oliver in detention after they have completed their jail terms.

But Mr Straw offered no details yesterday of where such people would be kept. The Home Office said that they could be detained in either the prisons or special hospitals or a completely new network of secure units.

Under the Home Secretary's proposals, police or social workers would be able to ask the courts to have someone detained if they believed they were a risk to the community, even if they had not committed a crime.

Mr Straw told MPs: "There is a group of dangerous and severely personally disordered individuals from whom the public are not properly protected and who are neither restrained effectively by the criminal law nor mental health provisions. Their propensity to commit the most serious sexual and violent acts may be

well-known and recorded." Mr Straw admitted that his proposals, which will be the subject of a consultation paper later this spring, were a "serious step" and he promised that safeguards, including regular quasi-judicial reviews.

The new order aims to deal with offenders like Michael Stone who murdered Lin and Megan Russell weeks after asking to be admitted to hospital because he felt out of control. But Stone, suffering from a psychopathic personality disorder, could not be detained under existing mental health laws.

It is also aimed at men such as Robert Oliver, who was convicted of killing runaway teenager Jason Swift. Oliver was also deemed to be suffering from a personality disorder and was released from jail even though he is still considered a great danger to children. He is now being held in a medium secure unit in Milton Keynes at a cost of £320 a day.

Penny Butler, of the Association of Chief Officers of Probation welcomed the plans for dealing with psychopaths. They are ticking time bombs which we do not currently have the power to defuse unless a further offence is committed," she said.

But The Bar Council and Liberty, the civil rights pressure group, expressed concern at the proposals. A spokesman for the Bar Council said:

"Plans to lock someone up before they have committed a crime need to be examined extremely carefully given the presumption of innocence in our legal system. There are plenty of people who are potentially dangerous, do we lock them all up?"

John Wadham, director of Liberty, said the plans were "quite shocking".

Leading article, page 21

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Hotspur: ready for anything at 18

Dominic Kennedy looks back at the Duke of Northumberland's colourful and combative ancestors

THE historic house of Percy has skillfully kept its power, influence, lands and fortunes through nearly a millennium of bloody intrigue.

Throughout the Middle Ages and the reigns of the Tudors and Stuarts, a young Percy was more likely to find himself in peril on the battlefield than from the temptations of a debauched youth.

The most famous Percys were the first Earl of Northumberland and his son Henry "Harry" Hotspur, who were both commemorated by Shakespeare in *Henry IV Part One*. In those days, a man was never too young to be trusted with the Percy inheritance.

By the age of 18, Henry, the first Earl, had already led English troops in France and he was a warden of the Scottish marches at 20. Hotspur, so named for his enthusiasm for patrolling the border with Scotland, was just 24 when kidnapped by invading Scots and held to ransom in 1388-89. The house of Percy was founded by William de Percy (c1030-1096), whose loyalty was rewarded by William the Conqueror with a vast fief in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire.

For nearly 1,000 years the Percys have played a colourful role in British history, as plotters, schemers and warriors in and out of favour at court.

Henry de Percy (1273-1314) was one of Edward I's most enthusiastic supporters in subjugating Scotland until forced to withdraw to England by Robert the Bruce. Henry was summoned to Parliament as a baron in Edward I's time but later became part of the baronial opposition to Edward II, the king obsessed with his homosexual lover Piers de Gaveston. Edward ended up gruesomely murdering but Henry de Percy thrived, buying land to make the family the biggest landowners in Northumberland.

Henry de Percy (1341-1408), became the Marshal of England and was made Earl of Northumberland at Richard

III's Coronation in 1377 but he too became his King's enemy. From 1398 Henry supported the Duke of Hereford (later Henry IV) and played a leading role in Richard's abdication. Disloyalty had become a habit.

Henry went on to plot against the new king and was killed at Bramham Moore. His son Sir Henry Percy, known as Hotspur, led the most serious uprising against Henry IV but was killed fighting his king at the Battle of Shrewsbury in 1403.

The earldom lapsed in 1537 on the death of the 6th earl. When the earldom was restored to the Percys in 1557 there was more trouble to come for the new and 7th Earl, Thomas (1528-72), who had been rewarded for his faithful military service. Thomas was beheaded in York market-place for involvement with the northern rebellion that sought to free Mary Stuart, Queen of Scots, and allow toleration for Roman Catholics under Elizabeth I. Henry, the 8th Earl (c1532-85), also suspected of pro-Catholic plotting and support for Mary, Queen of Scots, was imprisoned in the Tower of London and found shot through the heart there.

Henry the 9th Earl (1564-1632) was imprisoned in the Tower from 1605 to 1621 on suspicion of being involved in the Gunpowder Plot. His cousin Thomas Percy was a chief plotter.

Today the Percys are still prominent in national affairs. The present Duke is frequently described as a multimillionaire land owner and proprietor of cultural and artistic treasures.

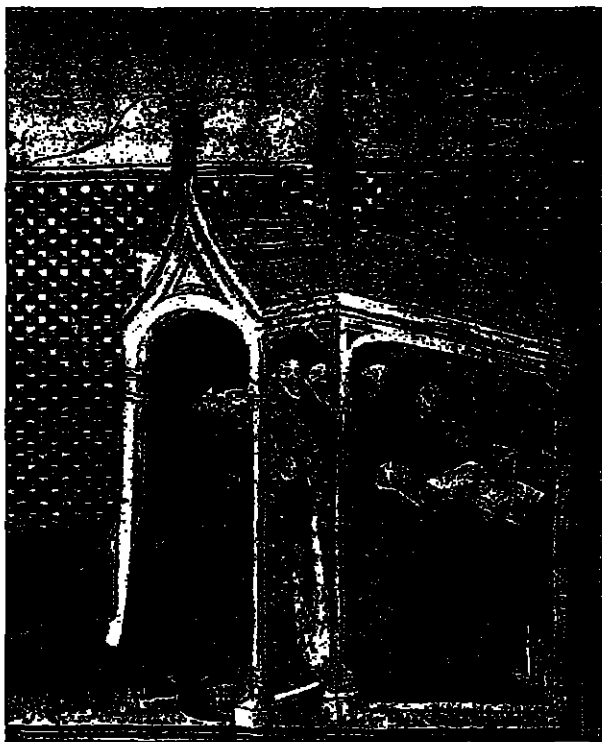
Unlike most dukes, he has stayed in his fiefdom, Alnwick Castle in Northumberland, while owning Syon House in West London. His eccentric brother Harry, who escorted the model Naomi Campbell's mother Valerie, was found dead at Syon in November 1995.



The Northumberland family's coat of arms



The Duke and Duchess of Northumberland at Alnwick Castle with their son George, who is to be protected from the perils of sudden wealth



Henry de Percy swearing his allegiance to Richard II

Where there's a will, there may be a drag

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

YOUNG people in line for multimillion-pound inheritances are increasingly unlikely to be able to touch their wealth until they are 25.

Princes William and Harry are the among the beneficiaries on whom conditions have been imposed to ensure they do not inherit their £12.9 million share of their mother's estate until they are mature.

In extreme cases trustees of large estates have cut their children out of their inheritance if they do not comply with their wishes—most notably as with Jamie Blandford, son of the Duke of Marlborough, who has been stripped of the right to inherit the £100 million estate. The Duke feared that his son, who has

been addicted to drugs, would squander the family fortune.

Kate Howe, a trusts expert with Boodle Hatfield, said it was common practice for trustees to ensure that a young person did not inherit a large lump sum at the age of 18. But if they were faced with a will that allowed this, it would be right to go to court to seek a variation. "It is no reflection on the young person; it is just the trustees saying that 18 is a very young age to have, say, £1 million at your disposal when you have never had to work or appreciate the value of money."

For hundreds of years will-makers have exacted conditions. A Wilfred Thompson left £16,000 to his niece in 1971

on condition she never marry. In the same year a man was left £36,000 by his aunt on condition that he marry a dark girl over 5ft 10in with an interest in classical music.

In 1972 the grandson of the 5th Lord Haverston had to change his name from Percival to Littleton to benefit from a bequest of £100,000.

More demanding was the request that a dental nurse had to spend five years without wearing make-up or going out with a man to collect £181,000 left to her by her former employer. A millionaire stipulated that his non-smoking, nagging wife must smoke five cigarettes a year before she could inherit his wealth.

Woman threw life away for love of a criminal

By ADAM SHERWIN

A SINGLE mother who spent years pursuing her ambition to go to university threw her life away after a chance meeting with a glamorous criminal, the Old Bailey was told yesterday.

Michelle Niles, 30, met the leader of a London gang in a pub and was struck by a "thunderbolt of love". She was soon acting as the getaway driver on a series of armed raids.

The court was told that Niles, from Edmonton, North London, had spent her adult life seeking to better herself and take care of her family. She was supporting a ten-year-old daughter and was a "well spoken, well educated and attractive" woman who was a role model for others.

She was studying for her degree when she went for a drink and was introduced to a man referred to in court as Harvey. John Plumstead, for Niles, said: "In the space of six weeks she threw away everything she had spent her life working for. She was struck by a thunderbolt of love and emotion which was sadly not reciprocated."

Her criminal involvement began when Harvey asked her for a "small favour" to borrow her car. It escalated into Niles entering off-licences and distracting staff so that Harvey and his armed could raid the premises. Niles would also on occasion act as the getaway driver. She admitted taking part in three armed robberies of off-licences that netted the gang over £10,000. She was paid £300 a time. The gang was caught after a police surveillance operation.

Judge Neil Denison, QC, sentencing Niles to 30 months in jail, told her: "These crimes are so serious only a custodial sentence is appropriate. You were under the influence of Harvey but that is no real excuse. I accept there is a good side to you. But you threw all that away because of your infatuation with a man and his glamorous lifestyle."

The man described as Harvey has pleaded guilty to robbery and attempted robbery and is awaiting sentence.

Old Bailey convoy follows in footsteps of German Army

IT TOOK Mr Justice Potts and his court marginally longer to enter the Republic of Belarus yesterday than it did the German Army in the early hours of June 22, 1941.

Judge, jury, counsel and court officials were on the second day of their journey to the village of Domachevo, to see where Anthony Sawoniuk, 77, a retired British Rail ticket inspector, is alleged to have participated in the murder of Jews during the Second World War. Mr Sawoniuk, who has been spared a return visit to his native village, denies four charges of murder.

The Old Bailey entourage left Warsaw yesterday morning in three coaches with police escorts for the 120-mile journey to the border, through countryside as flat as a Cambridgeshire fen, relieved only by birchwoods and near villages under a dusting of snow.

At the approach to the frontier post at Brest, a half-mile queue of cars engendered dismay: it can take up to four hours to deal with passports, visas and currency declarations. But the convoy was directed into the diplomatic lane, where courteous officials collected passports and showed no interest in the currency forms that the party had laboriously completed in duplicate.

The jury remained imprisoned in their bus lest someone take their photograph. The

The going is easy for war crimes trial but chilling realities are still to come, reports Alan Hamilton

judge, in flat cap and walking boots, took a stroll in the slush. William Clegg, QC, leading defence counsel, emerged into the sunshine in a brightly patterned Norwegian sweater.

After 65 minutes the customs officials emerged from their shed with armfuls of passports and the convoy crossed the partially frozen River Bug, to salutes from the border guards and a whoop of delight from the correspondent on the press bus who had won the sweepstake on how long the delay would be.

The Wehrmacht achieved the same border crossing, from Greater Germany into Stalin's Soviet Union, in slightly less time. The start of Operation Barbarossa was signalled by an artillery bombardment and the bombing of nearby Minsk and other centres of population at 3am. The Bug bridge was defended by a mere 40 Soviet border troops, who were overwhelmed by the

might of German armour attacking on a 930-mile front.

Within an hour the border village of Domachevo, the court's destination, had fallen to the enemy without a shot being fired. Days after the invasion, the SS had shot 40 prominent citizens in the predominantly Jewish village. Several thousand others fled to the woods or were corralled behind barbed wire in a village ghetto. On the day of Yom Kippur the following year, 2,900 Jews were led from the ghetto in groups of up to 70, marched down a track that came to be known as the road of death, ordered to strip and machine-gunned into ready-dug graves.

After the massacre the Germans, aided by local collaborators, mounted a search-and-kill operation to mop up remaining Jews. The four specimen murder charges against Mr Sawoniuk, of Bermondsey, South London, relate to that operation.

The Russian winter finally defeated Hitler, as it had done Napoleon 129 years before. But the Germans were not driven out of Russia until 1944, leaving behind an estimated one million Jewish dead.

Last night the court was installed in the Intourist Hotel in Brest, which has all the charm of a tax office. Today they will make the short trip to Domachevo to confront the chilling realities of 57 years ago.

Package tour group hid 110,000 cigarettes

By SIMON DE BRUXELLES

FIVE holidaymakers returning from the Canary Islands failed to declare some excess baggage—around 110,000 cigarettes. Several of the passengers had enjoyed free holidays in Tenerife in exchange for carrying suitcases full of cigarettes back home.

Exeter Crown Court was told that the five couriers were caught with 114,580 cigarettes on which they should have paid more than £13,000 in duty. What they may not have known was that 26 other passengers on the same flight were also smuggling cigarettes.

All the smugglers had left Britain from airports near their homes in the North East but returned via Exeter airport in January last year. On board their plane were more than half a million cigarettes crammed into cheap suitcases bought in Tenerife.

The five were ordered to pay £6,300 in fines and costs and warned that organised cigarette smuggling would normally lead to jail. All but five of the other smugglers have been dealt with.

Geoffrey Mercer, for the prosecution, said that 200 cigarettes cost £6 in Tenerife and £35 in the UK. The duty-free allowance is 200. "When [three female defendants] were interviewed, they all said the cigarettes were for their personal use or for presents."

Britons prefer to pop their clogs

By SUSIE STEINER

IT IS not the kind of success that pop stars rave about, but the theme from the film *Titanic* has become the most popular choice of music at British funerals. *My Heart Will Go On* by Celine Dion took top place from last year's winner, Elton John's version of *Candle in the Wind* from the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales.

Britain's largest funeral business, Co-operative Funeral Services, undertakes the annual survey from more than 30,000 service. A spokesman said: "The majority

of people are requesting modern songs. These give people the final chance to say something about themselves, a loved one or the world in general. While pop songs are increasingly popular, they are as subject to change as the chart on the radio." Songs dropping out of the funeral top 10 include *The Best* by Tina Turner, *Every Breath You Take* by The Police and *Always Look on the Bright Side of Life* by Monty Python.

The latest list is: 1 *My Heart Will Go On* by Celine Dion; 2 *Candle in the Wind* Elton John; 3 *Wind Beneath My Wings*

Bette Midler; 4 *Search For The Hero* M People; 5 *My Way* Frank Sinatra; 6 *You'll Never Walk Alone* Gerry and The Pacemakers; 7 *Release Me* Engelbert Humperdinck; 8 *Memory* Elaine Page; 9 *Strangers In The Night* Frank Sinatra; 10 *Bright Eyes* Art Garfunkel.

The top traditional tunes are: 1 *Ah! With Me*; 2 *The Old Rugged Cross*; 3 *The Day Thou Gavest*; 4 *All Things Bright and Beautiful*; 5 *Ave Maria*; 6 *Nessus Dorna*; 7 *The Lord Is My Shepherd*; 8 *23rd Psalm*; 9 *I Walk With God*; 10 *Eternal Father*.

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Lawrence officers to be named as racist

By Stewart Tandler, Crime Correspondent

AT LEAST a third of the officers facing criticism in the Stephen Lawrence report have been told that they could be accused of racism.

Up to ten officers have been told they may have been guilty of "unintentional" or "subconscious" racism during their handling of the case. All were constables or junior managers involved in the murder incident or the investigation.

One officer has been told that he faces being named as a racist because of his attitudes. He was involved in the initial stages of the case. Another more senior officer has been told he may be accused of "insensitivity".

Yesterday, as Sir William Macpherson of Cluny, chairman of the inquiry, prepared to pass his 550-page report to the Home Office, police sources said that the criticisms had been spelled out in individual letters to the serving and former officers. Some 23 officers were given warnings.

The letters are confidential and gave each officer only an outline of the allegations but

not the planned comment. Each officer was then invited to make representations.

When Sir William, a former High Court judge, agreed to send out the letters he ruled that he would not be drawn into a protracted debate. Lawyers for the police officers asked the inquiry for a definition of unconscious racism but received no response.

There is already concern in Scotland Yard that the inquiry will draw up a wide new definition of institutional racism that could have ramifications for racial harassment cases both in the police and other professions because it may include "unconscious" racism that could be difficult to substantiate or refute.

Yesterday Scotland Yard denied reports that Sir Paul Condon, Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, had also been given a written warning of criticism in the impending report. Sir William was alleged to have told the Commissioner he would be criticised for the way he handled a Scotland Yard review of the murder inquiry.

Sir Paul assured the Lawrence, whose son was stabbed in Eltham, southeast London, that the review showed the investigation had been properly carried out. Sir William was said to be highly critical that Sir Paul accepted a flawed review at face value and gave it his imprimatur.

Last October Sir Paul was questioned about the review by Sir William when he gave evidence on the future policing of race attacks. The Commissioner said he now accepted the review had a devastating effect on the investigation.



Berry White with the most recent arrival, a week-old male black rhino born at Port Lympne Wild Animal Park. Two others were born recently

Swapping partners is breeding success

By Nick Nuttall, Environment Correspondent

THREE rare black rhinos have been born at a British wildlife park. It is notoriously difficult to breed the species in captivity but the Port Lympne Wild Animal Park in Kent has managed to produce three in five months.

Berry White, head rhino keeper, said that the secret of their success was partly due to the size of the park's herd, which numbers 16 animals. "It means we can chop and change partners. Rhinos are like people, some males and females may not get on," she said. Ms White added that the park also had plenty of space and in the winter flew in pellets from South Africa made from the rhino's favourite food, acacia.

She said they had recently returned a bull bred in captivity to South Africa and hoped to send more back to their native lands. There are just 3,000 wild black rhino in Africa.

Art fraud mastermind is sentenced to six years

By Joanna Bale

A CONMAN who committed the century's biggest contemporary art fraud was jailed for six years yesterday by a judge who told him that he had inflicted immeasurable damage on the art world.

John Drewe, 50, made at least £1 million by fooling dealers, galleries and auctioneers into buying and selling fake modern works painted by John Myatt, a former art teacher who was sentenced to 12 months in prison.

The sketches and paintings were sold with fake provenances which Drewe compiled by contaminating archives in the Tate Gallery and Victoria and Albert Museum. Drewe showed no emotion

as he was sentenced by Judge Geoffrey Rivlin, QC, who told Southwark Crown Court that he had been the "chief architect, organiser and driving force behind a massive fraud". He added: "The evidence in this case reveals you have an extraordinary and alarming talent for manipulating and using other people."

He told the father of two, from Reigate in Surrey, that it was "almost impossible" to determine how much damage he had inflicted on the art world. A deterrent sentence was needed for the one count of conspiracy to defraud, two of forgery and one each of theft and using a false instrument on which he was convicted on Friday. The judge then turned to Myatt, who admitted conspiracy, telling him that his part in the fraud was so "vital and so significant" it was impossible to accede to defence pleas that his prison sentence be suspended.

The judge then ordered that more than £18,600 that Myatt had left from his activities be distributed between four collectors who lost thousands of pounds each buying the fakes. After the pair had left the dock the judge announced that he had ordered papers in the case to be sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions "for consideration as to whether Drewe has committed further serious offences".

Church steward killed his wife before fatal jump

By Adrian Lee

A DEVOUT Methodist known for being "calm and caring" is believed to have killed his wife with a hammer before throwing himself from a bedroom window and freezing to death.

Police said yesterday that they could find no motive for the attack by Martin Lawrie, who had attended a prayer meeting with his wife, Joan, a few hours earlier. The couple had been together for more than 40 years and Mr Lawrie was steward of the Methodist church in Freeland, near Witney, Oxfordshire.

In recent weeks Mrs Lawrie, a retired infant teacher in her late 60s, had spoken of her concern about her husband's failing health and said that she wanted to die before him rather than be left alone.



Joan Lawrie: attacked

Mr Lawrie, a former civil engineer in his early 70s, underwent major heart surgery about two years ago from

which he was struggling to recover. Some villagers said they were convinced the deaths were part of a pact.

The couple were last seen alive at 9.30pm last Thursday when a friend dropped them outside their four-bedroom house after a church meeting. On Sunday, a neighbour saw Mr Lawrie lying on a patio. Mrs Lawrie was found dead with severe head injuries.

The couple leave a daughter, who lives in the Manchester area, and son in Australia. The Rev David Freeland, the village's Methodist minister, said: "Martin was very much the lay leader of the congregation. He was a father-figure to others, a very calm and caring man. It is correct to say he was not enjoying good health."



Sir William: passing his report to Home Office

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Smokers 'misled' on low-tar advantages

Benefits cut by puffing more and blocking filters, reports Ian Murray

French sue over toll of cigarettes

LAWYERS for a French health insurer plan to sue cigarette manufacturers, alleging that they are responsible for hundreds of deaths.

The case brought by a branch of a state-run insurance system is the first in France, where smoking remains widely tolerated and socially acceptable. French tobacco companies are also state-run.

The board of the Caisse Primaire d'Assurance Maladie in Saint-Nazaire, near Nantes, did not specify which manufacturers it would be suing in its claim for damages and interest.

François Caballero, a lawyer for the health organisation, said that it would be the "civil lawsuit of the century". He added: "It's normal, given the evolution of industrial society, that there be an important trial pitting public health authorities against the tobacco companies." (AP)

THE tobacco industry misleads smokers about the tar and nicotine that can be inhaled from "light" cigarettes, new research says today.

Some cigarettes without filters, sold as "full flavour", have less than half the nicotine content of brands sold as "ultra light" that were fitted with filters, the study found. In addition, smokers can inhale filters that are the main device for reducing tar and nicotine inhalation by unconsciously shutting off vent holes.

The study of 92 brands sold in Britain, the United States and Canada was carried out by researchers from University College London, St George's Hospital Medical School, London, and Penn State University, Pennsylvania. Twenty nine of the 37 British brands tested had filter vents.

The researchers said that the tobacco companies' advertisements for low tar and nicotine cigarettes were based on tests conducted with smoking machines, which do not replicate how people smoke.

The machine smokes a range of cigarettes mechanically at the same time. Once a minute it takes a two-second puff that draws in 35 millilitres of air and smoke from

each cigarette until similar butt lengths are reached. The amount of tar, nicotine and carbon monoxide drawn through the cigarette are then calculated. The results of these mechanical tests show that, for example, a cigarette that has 80 per cent filter ventilation produces a puff that is 30 per cent air from the vents and 20 per cent unfiltered smoke.

The researchers said, however, that in real life smokers tended to block the vents with

their lips on short filters or their fingers on long filters.

A study by the tobacco industry found that 45 per cent of people who smoked an ultra-light brand blocked the vents to some degree with their lips, increasing the tar yield by 50 per cent. One smoker in ten at least doubled the tar yield by blocking the vents with their lips, the study said.

Smokers also tended to compensate for lower nicotine yields from light cigarettes by

puffing more often. Other factors that determined the rate at which nicotine was absorbed were the porosity of the paper, and chemicals that altered the burn rate of the tobacco.

The scientists said that research was difficult because of the many variables involved. But they say in *Tobacco Control*, a specialist journal for the medical profession, that smokers can and do satisfy their addiction to nicotine from even low-yield brands by closing the filter vents.

"Some cigarettes contain about twice as much nicotine as other brands, indicating that tobacco types or blends and tobacco casings can substantially manipulate nicotine content of cigarettes," the report says.

It also complains that tobacco firms' tests are cloaked in secrecy. "It is lamentable that consumers or scientists routinely know so little about so common a consumer good that causes so much death and disability. The more the cigarette is allowed to be a 'black box' — even to government chemists — the easier it would be to fool most of the people if an unscrupulous manufacturer chose to do so."

WHAT'S YOUR POISON?

The figures show the nicotine content of each cigarette in milligrams and as a percentage of the total weight.

Slit Cut Ultra 15.7mg, 2.4%	BSH KS L 13.9, 1.7
BSH UL 14.6, 2.2	Embassy 10.1, 1.8
Slit Cut Extra Mild 10.8, 1.7	John Player Special 11.9, 1.7
John Player KS UL 10.7, 1.7	John Player KS 14.4, 1.7
Lambert & Butler L 11.0, 1.7	Lambert & Butler 13.9, 1.7
Slit Cut 13.8, 1.9	Dorchester 9.0, 1.3
John Player Special L 11.1, 1.8	Berkeley KS 13.3, 1.8
Rothmans L 11.3, 1.7	BSH Special FR 12.2, 1.8
BSH L 13.3, 1.8	BSH 15.2, 1.9
Marlboro L 10.2, 1.7	Regal 10.6, 1.5
Dorchester L 12.4, 1.7	Embassy No 1 12.5, 1.7
Rothmans Royal L 14.3, 1.9	Rothmans 100 17.3, 2.0
Dorchester Extra Mild 12.2, 1.6	Berkeley KS 12.2, 1.4
Embassy Mild 11.8, 1.6	Kingshead KS 15.3, 1.7
Crown Special Mild 9.9, 1.4	Rothmans Royals 15.3, 1.8
Kingshead Mild 10.2, 1.5	Berkeley 10.0, 1.4
Consulate Menthol 12.1, 1.5	Marlboro 9.8, 1.3
Berkeley KS L 13.5, 1.8	Rothmans 14.3, 1.8
Berkeley KS Menthol 13.9, 1.7	

(KS = King Size; L = Light UL = ultra light)



Norman Cook — alias Fatboy Slim — and the presenter Zoe Ball, his new fiancée

Brighton rock for the hottest couple in pop

By A Staff Reporter

ZOE BALL was ten minutes late for her Radio 1 breakfast show yesterday after she returned from a romantic weekend during which she got engaged on Valentine's Day. She said last night she was "chuffed to pieces" after getting engaged to her pop star boyfriend, Norman Cook.

Her publicist said the couple planned to get married later this year. The surprise announcement came at the end of Ball's show this morning. Ball, 28, told listeners that her boyfriend — better known under his pop alias Fatboy Slim — proposed on Sunday after her afternoon nap at his seafront home at Hove, East Sussex. He presented her with an engagement ring she dubbed her Brighton rock.

Ball waited for the end of her show to tell listeners: "My boyfriend asked me to marry him yesterday and it is so exciting. I feel completely sick and my stomach's turning over." A Radio 1 spokesman said: "We expect our presenters to

love their music but we didn't expect Zoe to take it quite so literally." Ball spent the day fulfilling gleeful private engagements while Cook was at home. He said: "I'm very happy. I wanted to ask her to marry me because I just love her."

He told the *Brighton Evening Argus*: "She was in bed having a nap and I was a bit worried that Valentine's Day would just come and go. She had been moaning that I had not bought her a present and then I gave her the ring."

The ring is understood to be a diamond that Cook bought from Tiffany's in New York. The couple will appear together at the Brit Awards in London tonight. Fatboy Slim is in the running for awards as best British male star and best dance act.

The romance has been whirlwind and Cook's proposal came so suddenly that Ball's parents, Johnny and DI, have yet to meet him. "We are both delighted. Everybody tells us he's a wonderful bloke," Mr Ball said yesterday.

LOVE IS... BY ZOE BALL

Zoe Ball offered her fiancée Norman Cook a Brighton rock as a wedding present. The couple got engaged on Valentine's Day. Ball said she was "chuffed to pieces" after getting engaged to her pop star boyfriend, Norman Cook.

Ball's "Brighton rock"

Log on to the prayer screen

By Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

OFFICE workers are being urged to try a ten-minute prayer session in front of their computer screens as an alternative to "giving up the fags or the drink" for Lent.

Jesuit priests in Dublin have launched an Internet prayer service to mark the beginning of Lent tomorrow. They are providing passages of scripture as the basis for the daily devotion.

The site, Sacred Space, also offers suggestions on how to pray and advises on body and breathing exercises in preparation. Father Alan McCuckian, head of Jesuit communications, said: "A lot of people spend hours at their computer every day and often these same people have difficulty finding the time to pray. So we're bringing the prayer to them."

He said the site differed

from existing prayer sites in that "it invites you to pray here and now at your computer". He added: "It guides you step-by-step through the prayer and it offers you something new each day." He recommended it as an alternative to giving up cigarettes or alcohol.

He conceded that some office workers might be reluctant to pray in front of their computers. But he added: "We've done some research and people are reluctant at first but most of them found it worked for them when they tried it."

Senator David Norris, one of Ireland's most prominent Protestants, welcomed the initiative. "I think it very important to spiritualise what can often be merely mechanical information systems," he said.

Sacred Space is found at www.jesuit.ie/prayer

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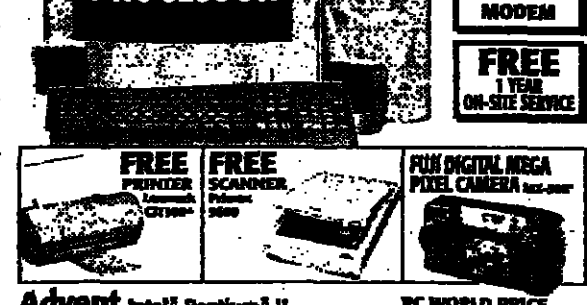


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IVF ambition of Labour hopeful

Woman hopes to be MSP and treatment pioneer, reports Gillian Harris

A LABOUR candidate for the Scottish parliament disclosed yesterday that she intends to become the first single mother to have a baby by in-vitro fertilisation in Scotland.

Carol Fox, a trade union official, is prepared to pay up to £15,000 to undergo IVF treatment to conceive a second child at a hospital in Edinburgh.

She had to travel to Eastbourne in East Sussex to find a doctor willing to help her to conceive her daughter, Natasha, 6.

Ms Fox, 38, who says she has not met a suitable partner, is keen to have her second child fathered by the same anonymous sperm donor that fathered Natasha.

At her selection interview to become candidate for Edinburgh West at the Holyrood elections she told Labour Party officials that she had had a child by IVF.

"New Labour has no difficulty with my lifestyle," she told the *Daily Record*. "I was very open and honest about my personal circumstances. Natasha is not some statement I am making to the world, she's a wee human being. I actually put a great deal of thought into it before I had her."

Yesterday Ms Fox won support from Malcolm Chisholm,

the former Scottish Office Minister who became the first frontbench spokesman to resign from Tony Blair's Government in 1997 over single-parent benefits.

"Carol is a brilliant candidate and a brilliant mother. I'm sure everyone will admire her determination."

But Ms Fox, who works for the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, also faced criticism about her decision to have a baby as a single parent.

'The important thing is that the child is wanted rather than being born into any recipe or equation of a family'

Ann Allen, the convenor of the Church of Scotland's board of social responsibility, said: "This is a symptom of a consumer society where a child becomes the ultimate accessory. We should not be able to buy children or buy conception."

Mrs Allen said that IVF treatment for single mothers bypassed the commitment of marriage and deprived children of having two parents.

"There are couples committed to each other desperate to have a child who have to wait for this treatment because it is so

expensive. That should be the priority rather than someone who wants a child without the commitment." However Ms Fox insists that she is as committed to her daughter as any parent.

Ms Fox discovered she had fertility problems when she was 20. A doctor told her that her chances of conceiving naturally were reduced and if she wanted to have a baby she should not waste any time.

Without a partner, Ms Fox decided to pursue IVF treatment before it was too late. "This was ten years ago and unfortunately in Scotland at that time it was not possible."

"I met closed doors and unhelpful remarks at every turn so I decided to go to London. I was referred to Harley Street and private medical places. They wouldn't take me because I was not part of a nice middle-class couple. Ultimately I just camped out on the doorstep of a clinic in Eastbourne and I said I was not going away." She had to pay for

her treatment because single women are not entitled to receive infertility treatment on the NHS. It took three years, 12 attempts and £15,000 before Natasha was conceived. Now Ms Fox wants another child. She has undergone nine unsuccessful treatments in England but hopes that she will be accepted into an infertility clinic in Scotland.

Ms Fox said: "Women should be able to choose to have a child or not in whatever circumstances. The important thing is that the child is wanted rather than being born into any recipe or equation of a family. I get annoyed when I read articles about designer babies. Anyone who has been through the process doesn't approach it in such a shallow way."

Ms Fox, who works full-time, said that her daughter was looked after by an au pair until she started school in Edinburgh last year. Now she attends an after-school club when her lessons have finished.

If Ms Fox is elected to the Scottish parliament and has another baby, she says she will make appropriate arrangements. "I will ensure that I am organised enough to do both," she said.



Carol Fox and her daughter, Natasha. Ms Fox wants another child by the same donor

Stolen car back after call from victim

By Paul Wilkinson

A MAN who bought a car so that he could visit his girlfriend in hospital had it returned by thieves after he rang them on the mobile telephone that they had taken with it.

Tim Overend needed the elderly Astra to make a 40-mile round trip to see Georgina Hurst, who was in a coma recovering from a bad car accident. One night, after visiting her as usual in St James's Hospital, Leeds, he had come out to find the car had vanished.

He realised his telephone was still in the car so he rang his own number in the hope of talking to the thieves. "I spoke to a lad and I could hear two others shouting in the background. I asked him if he would bring the car back," Mr Overend, 24, said yesterday.

"Which car?" came the reply. "They had stolen three that night," Mr Overend said. "I told him I had to come a long way to the hospital and needed the car to see Georgina." Mr Overend, a plumber, told the man he had taken time off work and bought the car from a friend so he could make the regular trip from his home in Keighley, West Yorkshire.

"I didn't give him any money - I just told him and he said he would dump the car in the hospital grounds." Two days later the Astra was found undamaged near the hospital.

Miss Hurst, 25, is now in a convalescent hospital where she is learning to walk again.

Yellow submarine nets fishermen £50,000 bonus

By A Correspondent

THE crew of a Cornish fishing boat have landed a five-figure sum for salvaging a yellow submarine. The Royal Navy craft was brought in by the trawler *Britannia V* after it came to the surface off the Cornish coast in March 1998.

At first, John Leach, the trawler's co-owner, hid the lift minibus at a secret location while negotiating with the Navy over his salvage claim. Charles Hattersley, his solicitor, said that experts eventually agreed that the vessel was worth about £200,000.

Mr Hattersley, head of marine law at the Plymouth lawyers Foot and Bowden, was guarded over the exact salvage reward but it is believed to be in the region of 25 per cent of the value of the minibus, or £50,000. The money will be split six ways between the crew and the two co-owners.

Mr Hattersley said: "All in



John Leach with the salvaged minibus

all we are reasonably satisfied with this settlement. In all the circumstances my client provided a very good service, carrying out a difficult salvage extremely carefully and very professionally."

"He was well within his rights asking for a salvage award and the Navy has finally

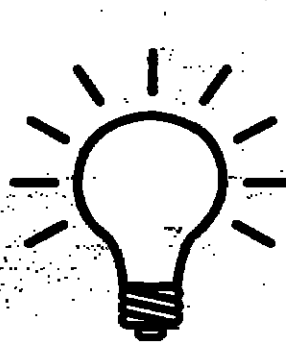
admitted that." A Ministry of Defence spokesman said it was "pleased that an amicable out-of-court settlement has been reached with Mr Leach's representatives."

Mr Leach said the first he knew of the unusual catch was a call from the boat. "The skipper rang me and said, 'We're alongside of a yellow submarine'. As you can imagine, I said, 'You're having me on.'"

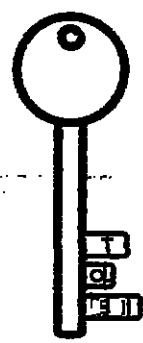
Of his negotiations with the Navy, he said: "I wouldn't say I was holding them to ransom. I just wanted to get some sort of salvage fee."

A spokesman for the Navy confirmed that the minibus was a Remote Counter Mine Disposal Submersible that was lost from the minesweeper *HMS Cromer* during a search for the *Margaretha Maria*. Four crewmen died in unexplained circumstances when the Newlyn fishing boat vanished off the French coast in November 1997.

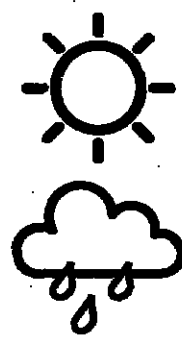
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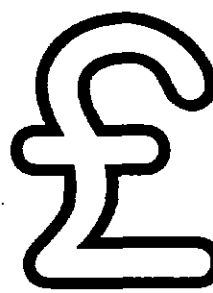
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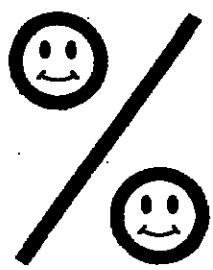
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Trimble faces loss of peace accord majority

By MARTIN FLETCHER, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

DAVID TRIMBLE'S supporters were last night battling to preserve his slim majority amongst Unionist assembly members before today's key vote to ratify the proposed structure of Northern Ireland's new executive.

At least two members of the First Minister's Ulster Unionist Party were threatening to desert him. That would eliminate for the first time his 30-28 majority over Unionists in other parties who oppose the Good Friday peace accord.

Mr Trimble would still command the 40 per cent support amongst all Unionist members required for this and other major votes, but losing his outright majority would be a serious symbolic blow.

It would inevitably provoke comparisons with the crumbling of Unionist support for Brian Faulkner, Northern Ireland's Prime Minister, before

the Sunningdale power-sharing executive collapsed in 1974.

Sources close to Mr Trimble argued that the evident fragility of his support would increase the pressure for IRA disarmament. "If decommissioning was starting you would not have this confidence problem," one said.

Ian Paisley, the Democratic Unionist Party leader, claimed that if the majority of Unionists vote against Mr Trimble "he has no more moral power to continue in office".

Today's vote will in principle enable Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, to trigger the so-called d'Hondt mechanism dividing the ten ministerial portfolios between the UUP, the nationalist SDLP, the DUP and Sinn Féin. Mr Trimble believes Unionists must take that step so the IRA has no excuse for not disarming. His officials insist

Dr Mowlam will not proceed without Unionist consent, and that if she does the UUP can still block the executive's establishment.

One UUP dissident, Peter Weir, confirmed he would vote no. Another, Roy Beggs Jr, may well follow suit; the position of two more is unclear.

Yesterday's passionate debate was coloured by Bertie Ahern's partially-retracted remarks on Sunday in which the Irish Taoiseach asserted that Sinn Féin's entry into the executive would have to be preceded by decommissioning.

Gerry Adams sought to dismiss the remarks, but Mr Trimble told the Assembly: "Whilst the pill was being sugared for some people in the course of the day, don't let them think the issue can be evaded. It cannot."

Leading article, page 21



David Trimble and Gerry Adams keeping their distance at Stormont yesterday

IRA calls halt to beatings

By MARTIN FLETCHER

THE IRA has halted all punishment attacks in Northern Ireland in the face of widespread condemnation and Amnesty International's planned investigation.

The Royal Ulster Constabulary said that apart from one possible incident late last week there had been no republican beatings or shootings since February 2. In January there were 17.

The Ulster Volunteer Force has also stopped its attacks, according to Families Against Intimidation and Terror, the human rights group. However, the Ulster Defence Association and other smaller loyalist groups have carried out 15 beatings and shootings this month.

Politicians said the IRA's cessation showed that republican leaders had the power to stop when it suited them, and that the IRA was susceptible to outside pressure.

Conservatives and Unionists have seized on the attacks to challenge Sinn Féin's commitment to exclusively democratic means, and to demand that prisoner releases be halted. Amnesty International announced its investigation on February 3. Mo Mowlam, the Northern Ireland Secretary, has privately admonished Sinn Féin and the loyalist political parties.

"If at last Sinn Féin-IRA is recognising the unacceptability of mutilation beatings and are responding to public opinion, that's a major step forward," said Andrew Mackay, the Shadow Northern Ireland Secretary who first raised the issue in the Commons.

Harry Barnes, a senior Labour backbencher who had called for prisoner releases to be suspended, said the IRA had been "shamed by people power into stopping barbaric beatings". He added: "If the IRA can stop breaking limbs they can start to decommission."

Vincent McKenna, Fair's spokesman, said of the IRA and UVF: "Public and international pressure has now got to the two terrorist organisations who have a political investment in the assembly. They realise they can't have one foot in the corridor of democracy and the other in the alleyway of murder and mutilation."

Tories are Samaritan party, says Hague

By JILL SHERMAN, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

WILLIAM HAGUE claimed yesterday that the Conservatives would become the party of the "Good Samaritan" as he said it was time to move to a new, caring agenda.

In his first big speech since his visit to meet George W. Bush Jr, the Governor of Texas famous for his "compassionate conservatism", the Tory leader said that people were now looking for a change in the Conservative Party. "There is a rising concern about national identity, about community, about order, about the work ethic, about self-discipline, about civility," Mr Hague told Ontario Conservatives in Toronto.

The Tories would respond to this "values agenda" by giving people and communities more power and not letting "small elites" create international institutions that only they can influence, Mr Hague said.

Referring to the Good Samaritan parable he said: "The Conservative Party is not going to walk on the other side. We are going to reach out."

Mr Hague said it was vital to start out by listening and understanding. "And from this base we are going to recapture from the Left the words like caring, like compassion, like fairness, words that they, with decades of failed social policy behind them, simply do not deserve to monopolise."

Mr Hague said it was Margaret Thatcher who pointed out that if the Good Samaritan had not been a wealthy man he would not have been able to help the poor victim. "She was absolutely right," Mr Hague said. "My determination is to ensure that when the Samaritan is wealthy he doesn't cross by on the other side of the street. My Conservative Party is going to reach out."

Michael Gove, page 20

Maude attacks 'stealth' taxes

By JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Tories called Gordon Brown a "pickpocket Chancellor" as they launched a campaign yesterday to highlight what they called Labour's hidden £40 billion tax rises.

Francis Maude, the Shadow Chancellor, claimed the Government had in successive Budgets imposed tax increases on cars, petrol, tobacco, pensions, insurance and house-buying. He demanded improved price labelling to show consumers how much of their spending on petrol, cigarettes and alcohol went in tax.

He also called for the Inland Revenue to send every taxpayer an annual statement of how much they have paid in income tax and national insurance. Mr Maude, who is planning a long campaign against "stealth taxes", accused Labour of breaking its pre-election promise not to increase taxation.

He published figures from the Commons library showing projected indirect tax increases worth more than £40 billion by the next election.

Downing Street denied that the tax increases were secret. "We are confident that people are significantly better off as a result of the policies taken over the last two years."



Maude produced figures showing £40bn tax rises

Morgan in poll position in Wales

By VALERIE ELLIOTT, WHITEHALL EDITOR

RHODRI MORGAN'S position as the people's favourite to become leader of the Labour Party in Wales and First Secretary of the Welsh assembly has been confirmed by a new opinion poll.

More people back the MP for Cardiff West for the leadership than support Alun Michael, the Welsh Secretary, and even more said they would vote Labour in the assembly elections if Mr Morgan was chosen for the top job.

Fifty-five per cent supported Mr Morgan as Welsh party leader compared with 16 per cent for Mr Michael. Tony Blair's preferred choice. Among Labour voters, Mr Morgan's support was 57 per cent compared with 19 per cent for Mr Michael.

If Mr Morgan led the Labour Party for the assembly elections, some 64 per cent would vote Labour, compared with 55 per cent if Mr Michael was Welsh party leader.

The Labour Party retains a

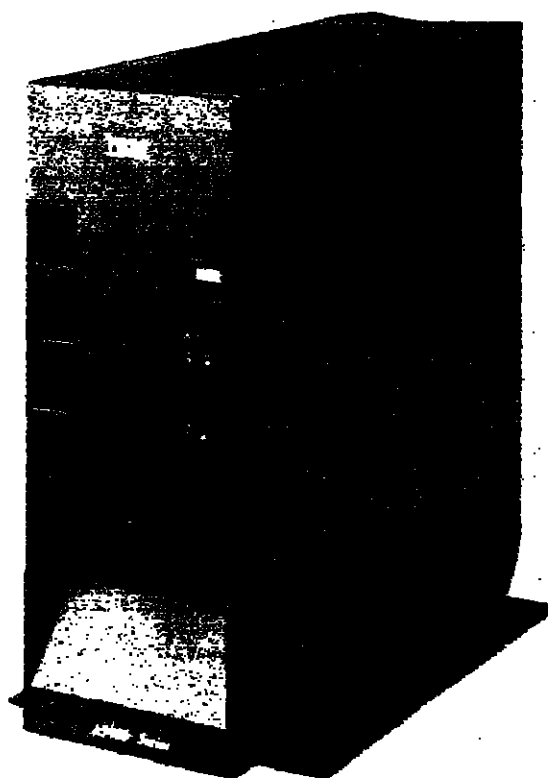
commanding lead in Wales but it is clear that more people will vote for Plaid Cymru than at the general election. There is little comfort in the HTV/NOP poll for the Conservatives, who appear to have gained little ground since losing all their Welsh seats at the last election.

According to the telephone poll of 1501 voters, the Welsh Nationalist Party, led by Dafydd Wigley, is set to double its vote from 10 per cent at the general election to 20 per cent. This would almost guarantee a Plaid win at Carmarthen East, held for Labour at Westminster by Alan Williams. This is also the seat Labour has calculated it must lose for Mr Michael to be elected on the proportional representation list for Mid and West Wales. There is also evidence that people might be prepared to switch for their second vote on the PR list, with Plaid Cymru and the Liberal Democrats expected to pick up the votes.

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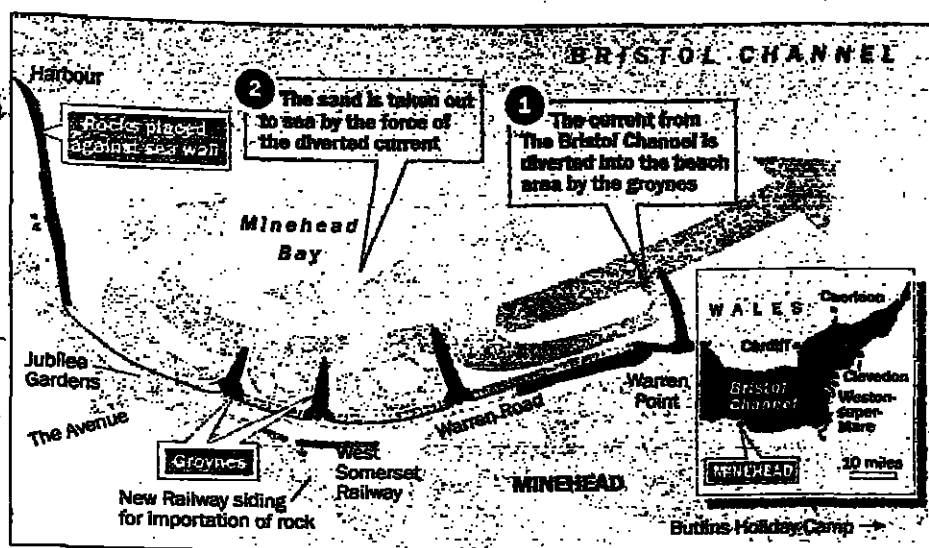
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Sands run out for seaside resort



THE Somerset resort of Minehead may never have been able to guarantee sunshine to go with the sea but it could always boast of its sands. A golden carpet stretched as far as the eye could see when the waters of the Bristol Channel retreated at low tide.

But the resort is fast losing the principal ingredient of a traditional bucket-and-spade holiday. A £12.7 million coastal defence scheme is stripping Minehead's beaches of their sand, leaving the town's tourist industry in turmoil.

Instead of sand, guests at the nearby Butlin's holiday camp, together with hundreds of visitors to seafront guest-houses, will find themselves crossing vast expanses of clay and rock-strewn mud to get to the water this summer. Plans by the Environment Agency to bring in thousands of tonnes of sand have been postponed because of a shortage of funds.

The coastal defence scheme was instigated by the agency two years ago after sections of a 1.8-mile sea wall were wrecked by storms in 1995. Phase one was to raise the sea wall by half a metre and build four long groynes to reduce the impact of incoming waves. More than 100,000 tonnes of boulders, some weighing 20 tonnes, were taken from the Mendip hills and laid in lines leading out into the bay. A network of steps and ramps was built from the promenade down to the sands.

The work was successfully completed ahead of schedule

Shortage of cash leaves Somerset coastal works half finished, reports Simon de Bruxelles

In June last year but had an unexpected effect on tidal movements. The strong currents coursing through the Bristol Channel have been diverted by the groynes, scouring the sand from the beach and washing it out to sea.

The problem might have been solved if phase two of the scheme, to extend the existing beach with 300,000 tonnes of sand and shingle dredged from the bottom of the Bristol Channel, had gone ahead as planned. The work was to have been completed by April but the Environment Agency now says it cannot afford the £2.5 million cost before the holiday season, during which 600,000 holidaymakers normally contribute to the town's £90 million tourist trade.

Yesterday furious civic groups and hoteliers said the scheme had turned the pretty seaside town into a "battlefield". Chris Dyer, a spokesman for the civic pressure group West Somerset Watchdogs, said: "The new sand was meant to be put in straight away but we have been left in

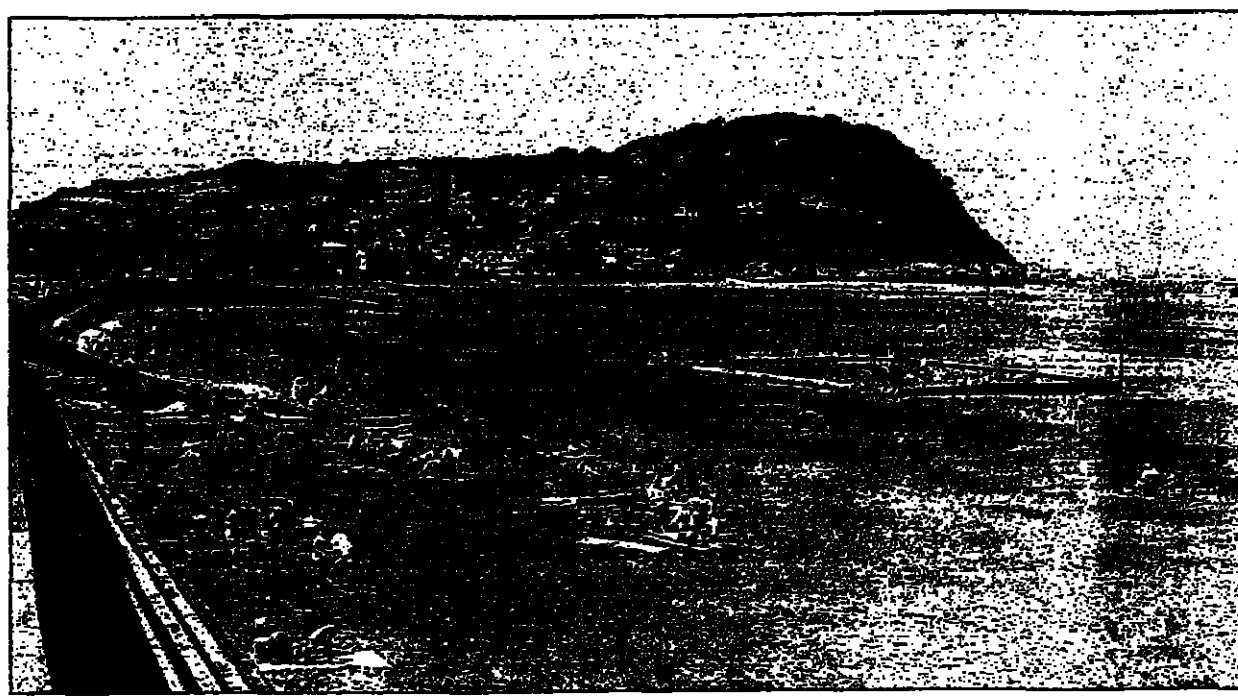
limbo. The tourists who come here and want to use the beach are not going to be happy. The beach changes every day but there is very little sand left and it is not being put back. We need a beach that is attractive, not just a sea defence system."

So much sand has been washed away that there are gaps between the bottom of the new steps and the beach. Kevin Escott, secretary of Minehead lifeboat station, said: "It's a disgrace. There are huge clumps of black clay and if children play in them they are going to get filthy. They have done a good job of the sea wall but we were promised the sand by the summer and this has come as a bit of a blow. The sand was the icing on the cake but now the place looks like a battlefield."

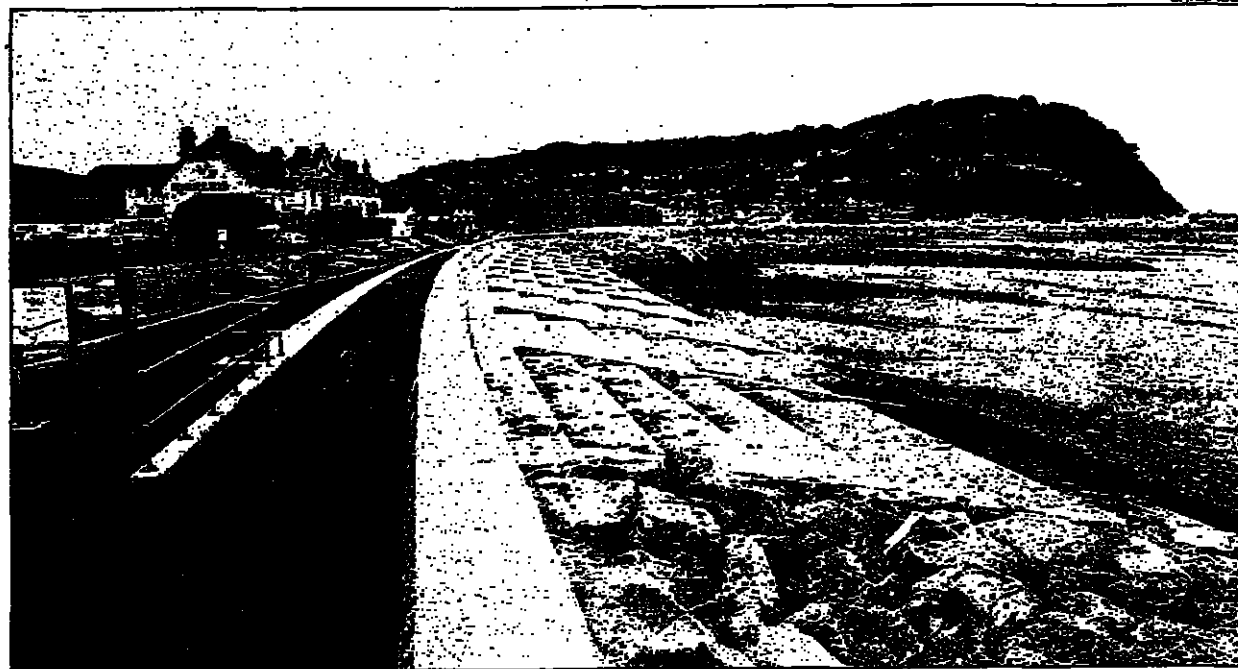
It was hoped that the defence scheme would rejuvenate West Somerset, where 60 per cent of jobs rely on holiday-makers. It coincided with a £40 million facelift of Butlin's Somerset World.

Malcolm Higgins, who runs the Wyndcott Hotel, said: "We had hoped to remarket Minehead this summer but nobody seems to know when the sand is arriving, which is causing some concern to us. There is sand in some places but in other places there is none at all. It will not make a good impression."

The Environment Agency is now in talks with the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, which was to have funded a large part of the project.



The sandy beach at Minehead before the work, above, and below, expanses of mud and stone divided by the groynes



Martin Weiler, the agency's southwest spokesman, said: "It was always our intention, and still is, to complete the project by the summer. However, funding problems have arisen. We do not have the funds we would like. We have raised this with MAFF but we cannot give any guarantees."

He insisted that there was no danger of the "new" beach being washed back out to sea like the old one.

He added: "The groynes were put in place to stop the new beach moving. The beach will be much higher and the waves will break earlier. It is a whole different set of dynamics."

John Loveless, a senior lecturer in the department of civil engineering at Bristol University and an expert in tide management, said: "The groynes are diverting the tidal currents from further out in the bay."

"They are swept into the bay and because they are stronger they pick up more sediment from the sea floor. It is a bit like opening an umbrella in a wind tunnel, you create diversions of the flow. If the groynes are virtually buried by the new sand I think this may be avoided but if I had designed the system I would not have built them so high."

NEWS IN BRIEF

All-British balloon set for lift-off

The only all-British round-the-world ballooning team is expected to lift off in Spain tonight in spite of a ban on them flying over China. Andy Elson, the co-pilot and engineer from Wells, Somerset, has strapped two tonnes of kerosene to the *Cable and Wireless* balloon's side to have a chance of enduring a long detour south of the country.

Noye appeal

Kenneth Noye, wanted in Britain for questioning over the M25 "road rage" killing, has appealed against his extradition from Spain. Pelayo Hornillos, Mr Noye's lawyer, said his client contended that he had been illegally identified.

Man sought

Police want to question Philip Poole-Warren, 42, after two women were raped in Milton Keynes. He is between 5ft 10in and 6ft 2in, bald on top with thinning blond hair, protruding ears and scars on his skull, nose and arms.

Police call

A search for five Manchester policemen who spent a night lost in the snow on Creag Meagaidh in the Highlands was halted after they reached a farmhouse and called local police on 999. They were later picked up by helicopter.

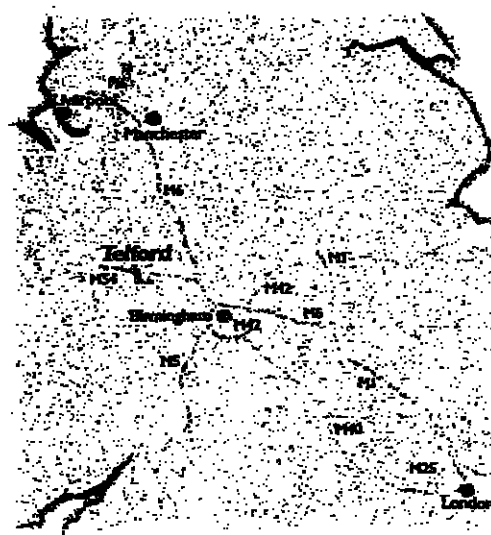
Pack of trouble

Linda McCartney's vegetarian sausage rolls have been criticised for excess packaging in a survey by trading standards officers, prompted by new rules that carry fines up to £5,000. McVitie's, the maker, said the packs met the guidelines.

Leading question

Dog owners exaggerate the friendships made through their pets, says Glyn Collis, a psychologist at Warwick University. In a survey, 40 per cent said they made friends in chats on walks but they could not name the people they met.

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Albright under fire in peace talks

EU irritation with US fuelled by advice to Kosovo rebels, reports
Tom Walker from Rambouillet

EUROPEAN diplomats in Paris accused Madeleine Albright yesterday of having a poor understanding of the Kosovo problem after the US Secretary of State suggested to an ethnic Albanian negotiator that he should adopt Gerry Adams, the Sinn Féin leader, as a role model.

American officials rushed to smooth over any controversy, but the remark served to draw out European discontent at the heavy-handed American push behind the Kosovo peace talks. "Quite honestly, she's been unimpressive on the details," said one European Union source involved in setting up Ms Albright's whirlwind week-end inspection of proceedings at Rambouillet and her meetings with EU and Contact Group ministers.

"It's clear that she hasn't grasped the full deal under discussion, but having said that, she has massive clout — she's the one who can say to the Serbs, 'sign this, or we'll bomb the hell out of you'."

The backlash against Ms Albright came after her briefing late on Sunday to journalists following the Contact Group press conference. She described how she took aside Hashim Thaci, the Kosovo Liberation Army's 29-year-old negotiating leader, and told him Mr Adams's metamorphosis from a champion of armed struggle to a proponent of peaceful dialogue was an example to follow.

American officials said Ms Albright had tried to charm both sides: she had reminded Serb leaders of her Belgrade childhood, and of how her Czech diplomat father, who loved Serb songs, had said that if he had not been born Czech, he would have liked to have been Serb.

It was the Adams comment, however, that sparked a diplomatic fluster. "I can't imagine why it would raise hackles," protested a US diplomat close to the talks. "We're just trying to suggest that people who

have abandoned military means and turned to political goals is right in line with what will succeed here. We're not trying to draw any direct comparisons with Northern Ireland, although there are similarities in the decommissioning of weapons that we want in Kosovo.

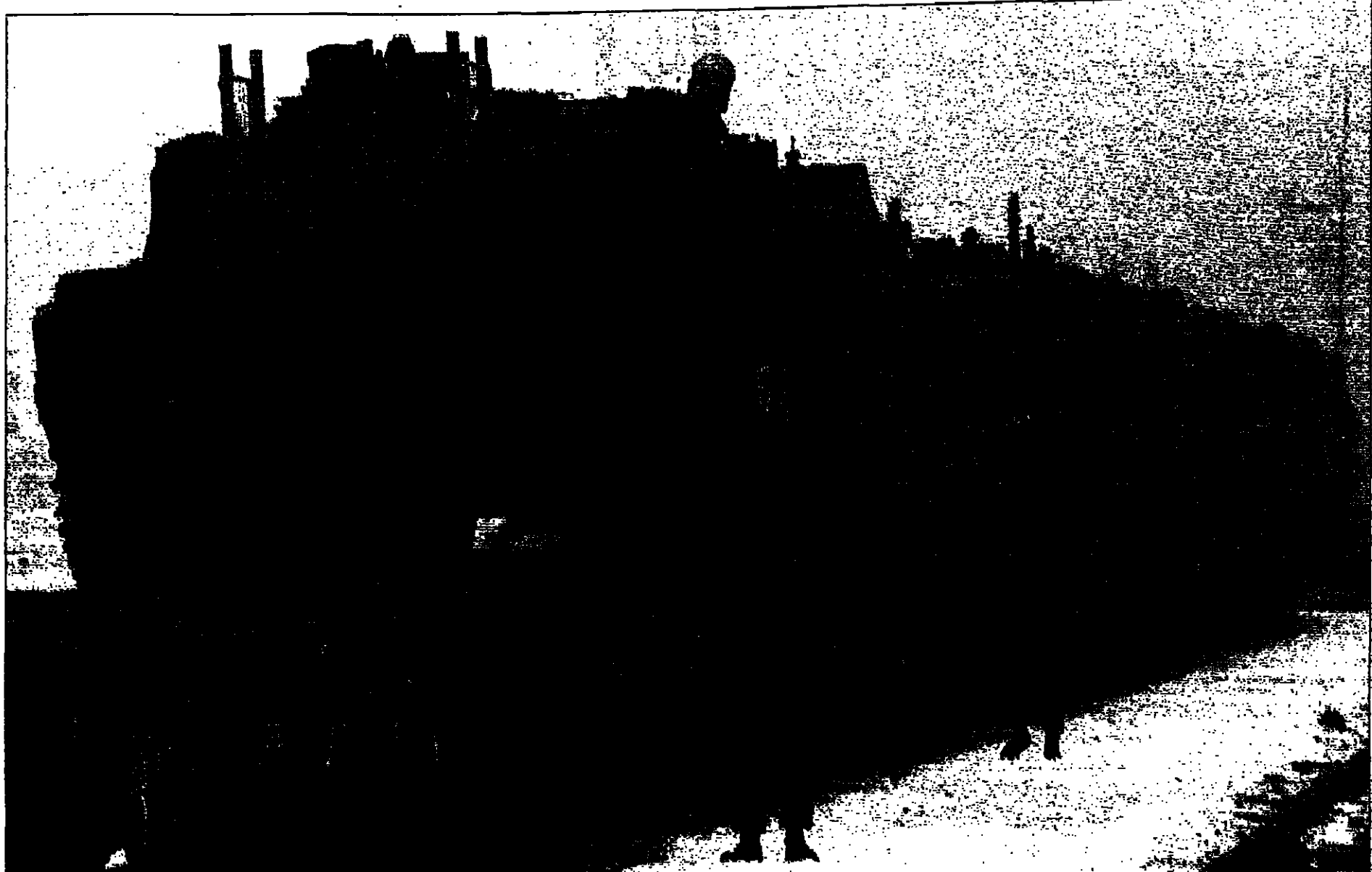
"We need to look for models, and Dayton and Bosnia may not be as good as other examples elsewhere in Europe... Look at the Good Friday agreement: we have to explain the process to the KLA in whatever way we can. We're trying to tell them that they don't have to stay out in the forests with their guns."

Any aptness of the comparison was lost on KLA representatives outside the talks, who yesterday were busy setting up an official Rambouillet office to keep in satellite contact with events in Kosovo. "The KLA is considered like an army by the Kosovan people and it will stay like that. It won't become a Sinn Féin," said Pleurat Sejdiu, the KLA's political representative for foreign relations. "We are in talks with the high command and it would be wrong to disarm the KLA now."

The talks were beset by problems yesterday as President Milutinovic of Serbia reiterated his Government's opposition to the proposed Nato-led Kfor peace implementation force, and the Albanians tabled a proposal that the KLA be transformed into a "national guard" to operate alongside a Kosovo ethnically representative police force.

Negotiators were encouraged, however, by Russia's agreement to turn a blind eye to military discussions, and to allow Nato to be written into security annexes to the peace agreement. Russia will not be party to any annex giving details of the implementation force, but diplomats insisted it remained united with the five Contact Group partners on the overall peace plan.

"She can say, sign this or we'll bomb the hell out of you"



Fourteen British Challenger tanks are transported by rail to be loaded onto the Royal Fleet Auxiliary vessel, *Sea Centurion*, at the German port of Emden yesterday for peacekeeping duties in Kosovo. As confidence grew within Nato that a deal between the Serbs and ethnic Albanians will be signed by the end of this week, British military personnel also loaded 17 Warrior armoured fighting vehicles, 34 Scimitar command and reconnaissance vehicles and 27 other armoured vehicles of the Royal Engineers.

Life in death's shadow for family in no man's land

NO MAN'S LAND is transformed from stillness to chaos in an instant. One second a group of villagers is stepping cautiously down a country lane between Serb and Kosovo Liberation Army positions, the fields silent; the next the bullwhip crack of gunfire catalyses the scene into one of frantic flight.

Two girls are caught out by the shooting on open ground. They run at first, the bullets flying around them. A man, a relative, is shouting at them



Anthony Loyd in Obrance witnesses the daily fight for survival of villagers caught in the Kosovo crossfire

from a house beyond, telling them to get down. They dive and flounder around, but the fire puffs up the snow by their legs so they rise again.

From the sanctuary of an armoured Land Rover I am

watching them with the detached curiosity of the very safe. I wonder how they feel. I wonder how the man feels, staring helplessly at the unfolding drama. They live. Obrance, their village,

straddles KLA and Serb front lines half a mile outside Podujevo, about 16 miles north of Pristina. Of all the houses in Obrance, the home of these two girls, members of the Uka family, appears to be in the worst possible place: detached from others, in the middle of a barren field, flanked on two sides by Serb troops, on a third by the KLA.

"Since September last year we've always been afraid and under pressure here," explained Hava, 20, the elder

of the two girls. "We are fearful even to go in our garden." "What you saw was not so bad. Three times before it has been even worse than that," said Smaji, their cousin, the man I saw urging them to cover. He laughs, but it is a hollow sound. "It is hard. A man can't help in a situation such as you saw. I have no weapon and could do nothing."

All seven members of the family have become experts in the domestic variations of gunfire. Tank and shellfire

they rate as the worst — it killed three men in one go from their village. There is not much to do each day. Once they have seen their father and one brother run across the fields to get to work each morning, relaxing until it is time for them to try the route home again, the young hang around, talk and smoke, waiting for the day when they can do something simple, like walk down the garden path without fear of getting killed.



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French charge friend of terrorist leader

FROM SUSAN BELL
IN PARIS

A FRENCHMAN believed to be a close associate of the Islamic militant millionaire Osama bin Laden, who was wanted in connection with the bombing of two US Embassies in East Africa last August, was arrested on January 18 at the Gare du Nord as he boarded a Eurostar train for London. It was learnt yesterday.

Ahmed Laidouni, 30, who is French of Algerian parentage, has been charged with criminal association with a terrorist enterprise, police said. They insisted that Mr Laidouni had "no direct link" with the bombing of the embassies in Nairobi and Arusha, which the US claims were organised and financed by bin Laden, and his exact connection with the Saudi dissident was not clear.

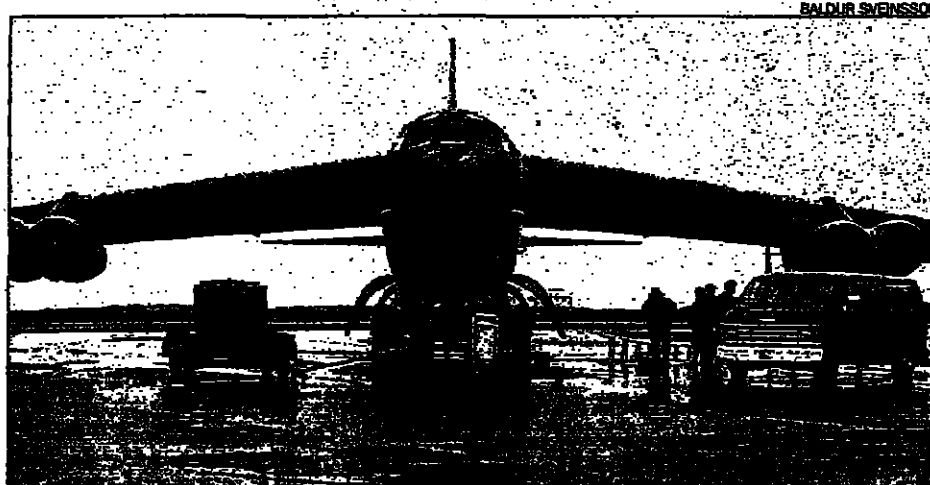
Born in Montfermeil in the northern suburbs of Paris, Mr Laidouni was a petty criminal before joining the Muslim side during the 1992-1995 Bosnian war as a mercenary.

He is believed to have attended weapons and explosives training camps in Pakistan and Afghanistan. He visited London last year to obtain visas for those countries. Europe 1 radio said yesterday that his arrest was prompted by the CIA, which had supplied France with a list of suspects who had undergone training in the camps.

He was sought by the anti-terrorist judge, Jean-Louis Bruguière, in connection with an investigation into forged documents.

When he was arrested, Mr Laidouni was carrying coded information that investigators are trying to crack.

Bin Laden, who was indicted in the United States in connection with the embassy bombings which killed 274 people, was yesterday reported to be hiding in Afghanistan after being snubbed by the Taliban's leader.



Iceland's role as a base for BS2s guarding Nato's forward defences has diminished

Iceland finally warms to its Cold War role

Michael Binyon
reports from
Reykjavik on
fears over Nato
base's future

THE end of the Cold War is producing shivers in Nato's coldest country. Iceland, the alliance's smallest member, fears that Nato will pull out of its once vital base in Keflavik, leaving Iceland defenceless.

Suddenly Icelanders, who once held regular demonstrations to send black servicemen to the island, and banned US troops from Reykjavik for fear that they would seduce Icelandic girls, are desperate to block any proposed cuts.

Iceland has discovered a new love for Nato. Politicians praise the base and visit its commanders. Ordinary people who once held up placards to denounce visiting ships are on the quayside to welcome Nato visitors into town. And the tiny country that once flirted with pacifism and neutralism is now among the most enthusiastic supporters of the Nato alliance.

The reason is simple. Without the "Iceland Defence Force", as the US garrison is called, the wealthy island with a population of 270,000 would be defenceless. It is not the unlikely prospect of a foreign invasion that frightens people, but the threat that a terrorist group could hold the country to ransom. Without a credible armed force of its own, Iceland, which was once the host of the Reagan-Gorbachev summit, could never stage an international summit again.

The Americans man a base that once played a vital role in patrolling the North Atlantic, securing the strategic approaches to Europe and hunting Soviet submarines in the waters of the Arctic.

But now the submarines are tied up in port, the probing flights into the Nato airspace have stopped and the Russians are themselves party to Nato deliberations. Keflavik, already ranked on the lowest Nato priority, is now vulnerable as US senators, fearful that Pentagon cuts would close employment-giving bases in their home states, point to possible closures overseas.

The defence agreement is open-ended, and Iceland and America have signed an agreement guaranteeing the future of the base until 2001. But already the forces are being run down. There were once 3,000 US Navy and Air Force personnel in this mixed-force base; now there are only 2,000, and other Nato diplomats believe the US Air Force may pull out altogether.

would be severe. The base — which also houses Iceland's international airport — provides about 10 per cent of the country's foreign exchange. An increasing number of Icelandic civilians are employed on maintenance contracts, as auxiliaries and suppliers.

Politicians, who once shunned contact with the base or demanded its closure at public rallies, now dwell on its vital role guarding America's forward defences. "I am sure they will stay, whatever happens," one minister insisted. Senior officers at Keflavik play down any threat of closure: the base is now fully integrated into the local community, carries out 300 rescue operations a year, hosts regular exercises and offers Nato vital training in marine and air patrols. Above all, the officers say, Washington would hardly risk pulling out in the hope that Russia will remain stable and knowing how difficult it would then be to come back.

The pro-Keflavik movement has made things easier for the soldiers. The restriction on blacks has long disappeared. Troops have been allowed into the capital — though not in uniform — for a decade. Icelanders are less fearful of a Yankee invasion overwhelming them. But no one is predicting what will happen after 2001. Only a new Russian threat could really revive Keflavik's role as one of a girdle of bases guarding the North Atlantic.

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Racist murder trial forces Texans to face their past

Unwelcome media spotlight falls on sleepy town of Jasper, Damian Whitworth writes

A FEW days ago the people of Jasper in east Texas gathered at the town cemetery and tore down the iron fence that had separated the graves of black people from those of white, dividing the population even in death for as long as people had been buried there.

It was an attempt to show the world that not all residents of this little town are racist murderers. It came too late to save them from occupying their own grim chapter in the bloody history of American race relations.

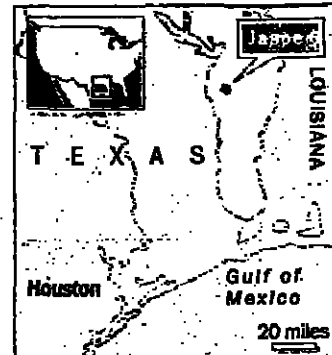
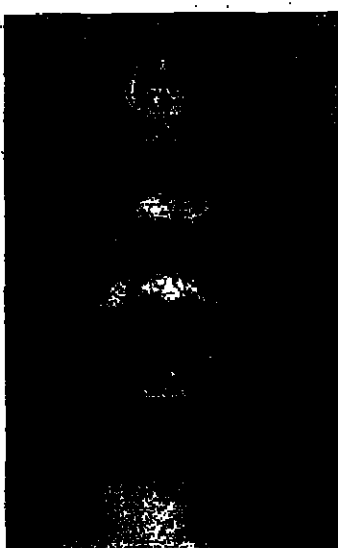
In Jasper County Court House today, a white supremacist will be the first of three defendants to go on trial for a killing as horrible as any in recent memory. Bill King was one of a drunken trio who picked up James Byrd, a 49-year-old unemployed black man, as he was hitchhiking home in the early hours of a June morning last year. They are accused of giving him a vicious beating, then chaining him to the back of a pick-up truck and dragging him along rough roads to an agonising death.

"Not only was he alive, he was conscious at that time and he was using his elbows and his body in every manner that he could to keep his head and shoulders away from the pavement," James Gray, Jasper County District Attorney, told the court during jury selection.

The body was "swinging out right and left like a boat pulling a skier" until it hit something and his head and right arm were sliced off.

When police traced the bloody route, not hard to follow, they found Byrd's torso a mile further on, dumped in the middle of Huff Creek Road next to an old black cemetery. "They chose to leave that body in front of a black cemetery as some form of message," Mr Gray said.

Mr King, 24, who has been described as the ringleader, denies the killing, saying it was another of the three accused flatmates, Shawn Allen Berry, 23. Mr Berry blames Mr King and the third friend, Lawrence Brewer, and says that he tried to stop the murder. The prosecution claims that the blood of the dead man was found on the shoes of all three.



because they had once taught the defendant or employed him to fix the roof.

Over a breakfast of bacon, eggs and grits in Texas Charlie's diner yesterday, one good old boy in old sneakers and a slightly grubby bomber jacket gave a tired smile. "We just want to get this over," he said. "Now I better not say any more - I'm the judge trying the case."

Judge Joe Bob Golden, known to everyone in the town where he has lived for nearly 40 years as "Joe Bob", has remained remarkably calm as the world's eyes turned to his little 19th-century courthouse. He has arranged for a hall to have an audio relay from the court for the huge media contingent, and he is overseeing tight security.

Last summer, after the murder, there was an angry clash in Jasper between the New Black Panthers and Klansmen. The Panthers, planning a show of strength today, have been banned from coming within two blocks of court.

The Byrd family say they have forgiven his killers. "Why should I hate in return? That would be what the men who killed my dad did, and I'm not like them," said Jamie, 17, his daughter. But they will not forget. Nor, it seems certain, will America or the rest of the world forget Jasper. "A small town - not to mention an entire nation - is forced to look deep inside at the most undesirable parts of itself and come to grips with ugly traits many thought had long since been left behind by social evolution, but are most obviously still deeply embedded," said Michael Journee, managing editor of the *Jasper NewsBoy*.



James Byrd Jr, who was dragged to death last June; his parents James Sr and Stella Byrd at his grave; and the back of Shawn Berry's pick-up truck, which it is alleged was used to kill him

Mr King and Mr Brewer appear to be deeply committed to white supremacy. They are heavily tattooed with Ku Klux Klan symbols and swastikas and have been linked to a group called Aryan Brotherhood, which advocates violence. In prison awaiting trial, they have joined the Confederate Knights of America. Mr King has

forsook baptism for the pagan worship of Odinism. He has not been a happy prisoner; he has talked of suicide, threatened his guards and been caught trying to make weapons.

During earlier hearings he had to be kept under control in the courtroom with an electric belt capable of immobilising him with a 50,000 volt shock. He has written letters to area newspapers claiming that he should not be prejudged. He closed

one: "Still white and proud." Until the gruesome murder Jasper was so out of the way in this unprepossessing corner of Texas and so unheard of that its only claim to fame was that General Custer once bivouacked here on his way back from the Civil War in 1865.

It is a poor town, with a conspicuous number of rundown shacks, where everyone does seem to know everyone. Jury selection took weeks as prospective jurors were released

FOR MORE
<http://www.abc.com.au/profiles/jasper.htm> - Community profile of Jasper.
<http://www.fox.com/news/jasper.htm> - FBI report on hate crime.
<http://www.bbc.com/news/world/americas/jasper.html> - Police officials in the case.



Bill King leaves Jasper County Courthouse in a bulletproof vest and shackles during jury selection, which took several weeks

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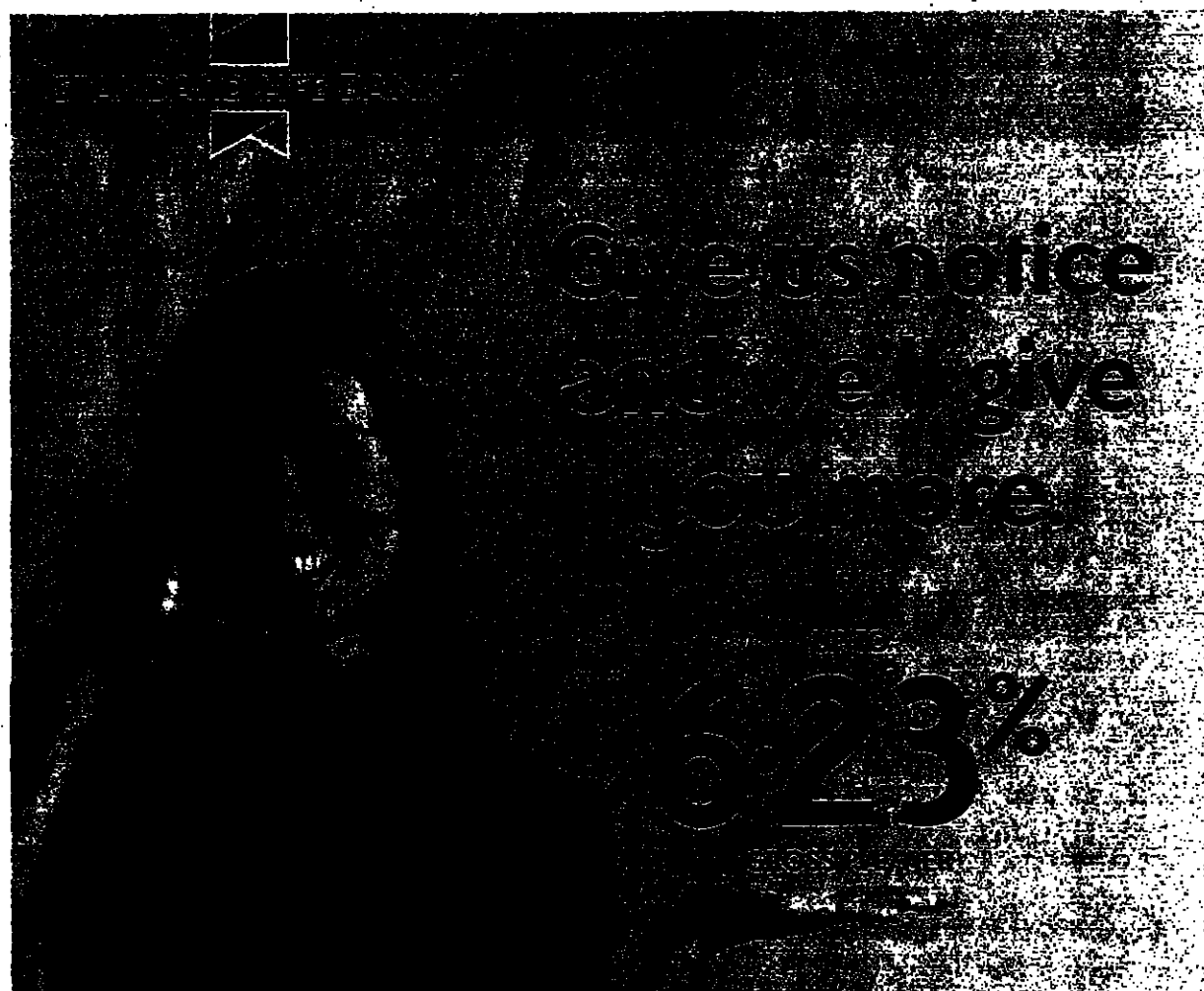
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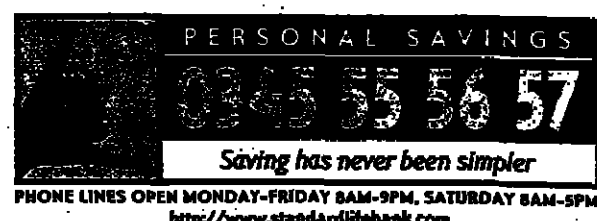
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مكتبة القرآن

Trail in French forest murder takes new twist

THE mystery of the Fontainebleau fiancé murders — one of France's most notorious unsolved crimes, which has baffled police for more than a decade — took another unexpected turn when a law student who confessed to the crime on Saturday retracted his confession yesterday.

Cedric Mabilie, 28, a student of criminology, was arrested on Thursday evening and confessed to the murder of Gilles Naudet, 25, and Anne-Sophie Vandamme, 24. His father, Jean, a retired airline pilot, and a family friend known to be a poacher were also arrested and placed under investigation for murder.

Mabilie, from Gironville near Fontainebleau, is a known poacher obsessed with guns and military uniform who abandoned his training as a gunsmith to study law.

As police congratulated themselves on having finally caught the murderer, Mabilie, who gave several accounts of the killing over the weekend, some of which implicated his father, yesterday denied committing the murder, saying he was in another part of the country at the time. In October 1988, the engaged couple had packed a pic-

Double killing has baffled police for years, Susan Bell writes in Paris

nic and set off from their home in Versailles for a romantic stroll through the forest of Fontainebleau with their dog, Dundee. They never returned.

In December 1989 a medium directed police to the site where the bodies were eventually found. A patrol searched the area but found nothing. It was not until January 10 that the bodies of the lovers and their dog were discovered by a forest warden. The remains were concealed in a shallow grave in a lonely part of the woodland. The couple had been shot, Naudet four times and his fiancée with a single bullet to the back of the head. Dundee, a Pyrenean mountain dog, had also been shot. The bullets all came from 22 sporting rifles. A silencer of the type used by poachers was found near by.

Forensic science evidence

showed that two rifles had been used, suggesting that the murders were the work of more than one person.

The case became a *cause célèbre* which took on surreal proportions as investigators followed up bizarre leads. Suspects ranged from latter-day Druids, a Portuguese gardener, and a family of Spanish poachers to a couple who regularly laid flowers on the site where the bodies were found.

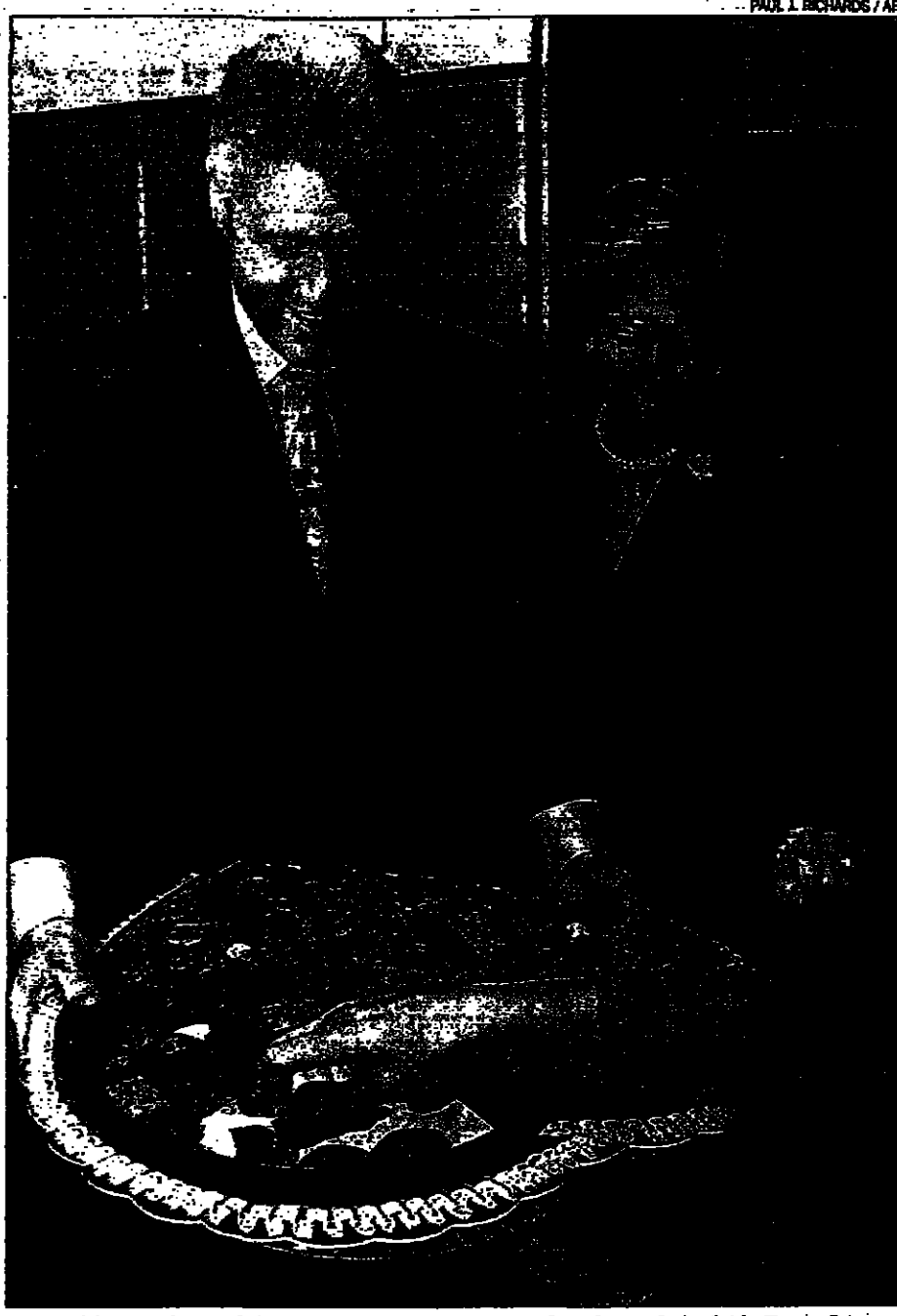
Investigators concentrated on a terrorist link after police discovered a cache of explosives and drugs buried near where the bodies were found. Investigators became mired in thousands of statements from suspected poachers, hunters, gamekeepers and gun enthusiasts. Gendarmes say they have worked on the case for 200,000 hours and collected 20 volumes of testimony.

The detective in charge of the investigation, Dominique Bellanger, even spent three weeks camping on the site where the bodies were found to soak up the atmosphere.

A breakthrough came last year when police obtained a powerful computer from the Canadian police capable of analysing thousands of pages of testimony and identifying possible contradictions. In January last year, gendarmes arrested 13 people connected to a poaching ring in the forest on suspicion of murder. Eighteen rifles and pistols were seized, but no charges were brought connected to the case.

The motive for the murders is not clear, but it is believed that the lovers may have followed a woodland path left by deer and were unaware that poachers were lying in wait.

Investigators say that Dundee was the same size and colour as a young deer. It is thought that the murderer may have mistaken the dog for a deer and killed it, and then murdered the couple to prevent them calling police.



President and Mrs Clinton share Valentine's Day chocolates aboard Air Force One

Hillary's Valentine sweetener

FROM IAN BRODIE
IN WASHINGTON

FOR a year talk was of gifts between President Clinton and Monica Lewinsky, but now it was Hillary's turn. The First Lady wore a gold, heart-shaped brooch on Valentine's Day. Asked if it was new, she replied: "Brand new."

Then she pointed to her husband and smiled. His specially made gift was a tangible emblem of affection after weeks of reports that he was work-

ing on repairing the marriage and she was still having outbursts of anger towards him.

His gesture came as Mrs Clinton was preparing to sit down with Democrats urging her to run for the Senate from New York — an idea she has so far not decided to accept. She was wearing the brooch as the couple made a rare visit to Air Force One's press section during a flight to the Yucatan peninsula for a 24-hour summit with Mexican leaders on drugs and

trade. It was the first time the President had left the White House since his acquittal on last Friday.

The White House press office refused to say how much he had paid for the brooch because it was a private gift.

Mr Clinton also gave Monica Lewinsky a brooch during her time at the White House, although he said in his grand jury evidence that he could not remember doing so. A valuer in Washington estimated its value at \$5 (£3).

WORLD IN BRIEF

Britain imposes arms embargo

Britain yesterday announced an immediate arms embargo on Ethiopia and Eritrea while publicly deploring the resumption of fighting between them (Michael Binyon writes). Tony Lloyd, the Foreign Office Minister for Africa, told Parliament that it would be a criminal offence to sell arms to either side, and called on both countries to restore the ceasefire and resume talks on a settlement within the framework of the Organisation of African Unity. Last week the United Nations Security Council urged countries not to sell arms to either side, but did not impose a full embargo.

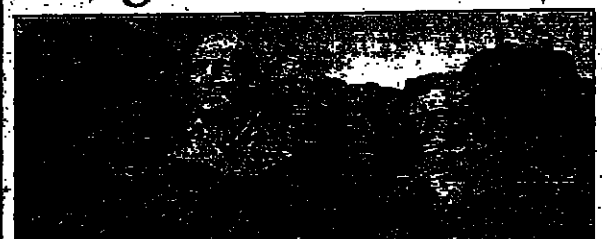
Miners' leader jailed

Bucharest: Romania's Supreme Court jailed Mircea Cozma, the miners' leader, for 18 years on charges over 1991 riots that toppled the Government. The ruling — replacing a served 18-month sentence by a lower court — shocked the country. Three weeks ago Cozma led a violent march that ended after he negotiated with Radu Vasile, the Prime Minister. Police may have trouble rearresting Cozma, who claims the courts are under political influence. He had a hero's welcome on returning from jail to his Jiu Valley powerbase. (Reuters)

'Bomber' blown up

Madrid: Fears that a summer bombing campaign would wreak havoc on the Costa Blanca receded after a pensioner blew himself up with a home-made explosive device on the beach at Salou, eastern Spain (Giles Tremlett writes). Police said yesterday that the victim, Juan Sarmiento, 63, almost certainly was behind extortion letters sent to Salou and other resorts in recent weeks. The letters had threatened to carry out bomb attacks unless payments of up to £900,000 were made.

Reagan's face value



Los Angeles: Republican efforts to memorialise Ronald Reagan will take a leap forward next week with a proposal to carve his likeness into Mount Rushmore, above, beside other former US Presidents in South Dakota's Black Hills (Giles Whitfield writes). The National Park Service claims that the monument is cracking and will not withstand more drilling.

Letters of the law

Manila: A Filipino couple's attempt to give their child a name with 2,222 letters was blocked by the Justice Department on the ground that it would cause confusion. Giving a child a name "cannot be arbitrary or whimsically exercised, as the adoption of names is a matter of public interest", a ruling said. (The Philippine Daily Inquirer)



Gilles Naudet and Anne-Sophie Vandamme: they vanished while on a picnic in Fontainebleau forest



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Jumpy start to Year of Rabbit

James Pringle in Hong Kong reports on China's sense of gloom as the lunar new year dawns

CHINESE around the world will today celebrate the lunar festival, ushering in the Year of the Rabbit. In the ancient Chinese zodiac the rabbit is regarded as an easy-going animal, promising good fortune, peace and plenty for the year ahead.

But at a time when the Chinese leadership is increasingly nervous over a worrying economic situation and growing joblessness that could spark social unrest, this year's celebrations are muted at best. Few Chinese feel there is much to cheer about in this most important of traditional festivals.

On the eve of the new year yesterday, there was a sense of restiveness over much of this vast country of 1.3 billion and the downbeat mood has spread to Hong Kong, where the festive spirit is decidedly lacking. Record unemployment has beset Hong Kong and the former colony is experiencing its worst recession in more than a generation.

On the mainland, Beijing has stepped up a campaign against political dissent as the leadership struggles to keep a lid on discontent spurred by rising unemployment with the reform of loss-making state-run industries, unpaid salaries and rising crime. While the attitude of most Chinese appears to be one of resignation rather than revolution over frustrated hopes of prosperity and anger at corruption, grumbling is widespread.

Some pundits believe that China will muddle through this troubled year, but others believe that the situation could spiral out of control. "Either things will stabilise or there will be complete disaster," said one foreign commercial counsellor. "The leadership is clearly frightened," added a foreign diplomat.

President Jiang has twice given warnings in the past three months that dissident activity would be "resolutely nipped in the bud", and he coupled this with a rigorous crackdown that shocked China's American and European partners who had been pursuing a dialogue on human rights.

The situation has been exacerbated by a recent wave of bomb blasts that has killed 31 people and injured more than 100. Police blame the explosions on criminals or would-be suicides, but Hong Kong human rights groups claim the incidents are linked to rising tension and social unrest.

This year is also one of politically sensitive milestones, from the tenth anniversary of the Tiananmen Square crackdown on June 4 to the 50th anniversary of the People's Republic on October 1.

The Government has warned dissidents that they risk jail if they persist in efforts to hold a congress of the fledgling China Democratic Party (CDP), but this has not stopped rights activists from defying the authorities.

What Beijing is concerned about is that simmering discontent could find an outlet in the new party which appears determined to challenge the Communist Party's monopoly on power, said one diplomat. Already the Government



Chinese girls dressed as imperial archers prepare for this year's lunar festival celebrations in Beijing

has held show trials that mocked due legal process and meted out long prison terms for three of the CDP's most militant founders, including 13 years for the best-known dissident still in China, Xu Wenli.

Meanwhile, Beijing's problems continue to mount. There has been unrest in the western autonomous Muslim region of Xinjiang; the Dalai Lama,

Tibet's exiled spiritual leader, says informal communications with Beijing have been severed with the approach of the 40th anniversary of the Tibetan uprising against Chinese rule; and tension has resurfaced in the South China Sea, thanks to a territorial dispute with the Philippines over the Spratly Islands.

In Hong Kong, a lack of con-

fidence in the leadership of Tung Chee-hwa, the Chief Executive, and a constitutional squabble with Beijing over who has the final say in interpreting the territory's laws, have added to the sense of a loss of confidence.

Even Hong Kong's *feng shui* experts are gloomy. "Life will be hard, business will be bad and there will be more

pay cuts and retrenchments," Kwong Wai-hung, a *feng shui* master, said.

□ Dissident released: China released Gao Yu, a dissident journalist, on medical parole yesterday. Gao, 56, returned to her Beijing home for the first time since her arrest in 1993 on charges of "disclosing state secrets" in a Hong Kong magazine. (Reuters)

US jets strike as Turkey rebuffs Saddam

By MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

AMERICAN warplanes based in Turkey yesterday bombed targets in Iraq as one of President Saddam Hussein's top diplomats was in Ankara on a failed mission to cajole Turkish leaders into stopping allied aircraft using their territory.

Baghdad also said that British and US aircraft flying from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait had struck at four sites in southern Iraq, killing five people and wounding 22. The Ministry of Defence said that four RAF Tornado GR1 bombers and seven US aircraft had taken action after an Iraqi fighter strayed into the southern zone.

Earlier Saddam had issued threats that Iraq had the ability to strike at US and British military targets in those countries. It was the starkest warning yet to his Arab neighbours since the build-up to the 1991 Gulf War. Iraq could call on the help and support of "genuine and loyal nationalists" in both countries, Saddam said.

No-fly zones over northern and southern Iraq are the focus of a low-intensity war that began in December after Operation Desert Fox. Washington has relied more heavily on the zones to curb Saddam after the withdrawal of United Nations arms inspectors.

In response, the Iraqi leader has embarked on a mixture of high-level diplomacy and lurid threats to prevent allied aircraft using bases in neighbouring countries. Neither tactic has achieved results, but Washington was dismayed that Turkey, valued as a Nato ally but with an eye to future economic links, agreed to talks with Tariq Aziz, Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister. However, Bulent Ecevit, Turkey's Prime Minister, told Mr Aziz that Baghdad should recognise the no-fly zones, comply with UN resolutions and avoid armed conflict with America. Turkish media reports said.

One of the Kurds who set himself ablaze

Kurds in fiery protest survive

FROM JOHN CARR IN ATHENS

THREE Kurds attempted to burn themselves to death yesterday during a demonstration in central Athens calling for Greece to give political asylum to the fugitive Kurdish guerrilla leader, Abdullah Ocalan, who is sought by Turkey.

All three survived as police guarding the demonstration used the fire extinguishers they had with them. The three doused themselves with petrol and set themselves on fire just as riot police were moving in to disperse the demonstration. Two were reported to be badly burnt.

Love-sick Malaysians go hunting for charms of the snake

FROM DAVID WATTS IN KUALA LUMPUR

MALAYSIA is no place to be a snake, especially when it is Chinese New Year. Many locals believe that snake blood is nature's version of Viagra and hunt down the reptiles to ensure the celebrations, and those for Valentine's Day, get the year off

to an auspicious start. Ideally a shot of warm snake blood is mixed with whisky and followed up with a snack of snake gall bladder. The deadlier the serpent the better the results, according to local belief — so the favoured prey is a five cobra.

But if there are no cobras to hand, then vipers or banded kraits will do. The demand is so strong that even

local licensed snake catchers cannot keep up with it.

Snake smugglers now bring them in from Thailand. Within the last month enforcement officers in the state of Perlis alone have seized 2,794 poisonous and non-poisonous snakes from smugglers.

Cobras are designated a protected species, but they are so valuable that

it is worth the risk of prosecution and a fine of M\$3,000 (£500).

The situation is complicated by the fact that catching snakes is legal. Perlis issues about 40 snake-catching licences a month. Each licence, which costs about £8, permits the taking of a maximum of 50. But numbers have fallen dramatically. An old snake catcher, Bidin Mai Hashim, told the

New Straits Times that he had caught 25,000 in the past 30 years and could bag 25 a day in the 1970s. Today he is lucky to snare two a day. A cobra fetches M\$120 compared to M\$2.50 in the Seventies.

"These are poisonous creatures which can kill people with just one bite," he said. "I don't see anything wrong in catching them."

YOU LEARN AS YOU GO ALONG.

Train your mind to fight depression

You can liberate yourself by learning to live with your feelings. Anjana Ahuja discovers an unusual therapy

Three years ago Gary Jenkins swallowed 90 painkillers with a pint of milk, then lay down in a park to die. It was his second attempt to escape. Once and for all, the continual depression that had enveloped him since adolescence and turned him into a loner, "I thought about suicide every single day," he says. "Because I wanted it to be final, I would contemplate jumping under a train, or throwing myself off a 100ft building."

Racked by violent stomach pains and guilt, he confessed to his overdose and recovered in hospital. Now his life is unrecognisably different. Where before he had never sustained a relationship for more than two months, he is now married and planning a family; the long-distance driving jobs and manual labour have been replaced by a fledgling career as an educational author, and the itinerant, attachment-free lifestyle he once coveted has been swapped for a settled existence in Devon.

Jenkins, 39, who had previously tried antidepressants (he collected them for his first suicide attempt), assertiveness courses and cognitive behaviour therapy without success, attributes his remarkable turnaround to an encounter with Dr Clive Sherlock, a consultant psychiatrist in Oxford recommended by his GP. Sherlock's approach was, to say the least, unconventional. "I soon realised that he was advocating the opposite of what I had done before," Jenkins says. "While cognitive behaviour therapists had tried to get me to change my thoughts, Clive would say 'Accept them. Just don't consider them. It is not an intellectual activity, so don't give them the time of day or do anything with them.'"

"So whenever I found my

self dwelling on the past or thinking about the future, I would take a sharp intake of breath, label them 'thoughts' and go back to what I was doing. I now respond with zero questioning, reflection or contemplation. It took a long time to get used to it, but it has cleared away a lot of the clutter. I went from thinking of myself as hopeless and awful to realising that it was a complete waste of time to think about these thoughts at all," Sherlock, an affable, energetic man



Gary Jenkins: suicidal

with sharp blue eyes, is currently spending a lot of time and effort trying to persuade his peers that encouraging patients to adapt to and live with one's feelings, rather than rebuffing, ignoring or acting on them can be very liberating. He calls it adaptation behaviour therapy (ABT). His journey of enlightenment began when he started out in psychiatry more than 20 years ago and realised that "drugs and psychotherapy were not the whole answer".

"What happens when we feel angry or frustrated?" he asks. "We hit out, shout out or suppress them, and feel tense or uncomfortable. Perhaps we

feel frightened or threatened. But saying 'damn' or punching the door doesn't relieve the problem. We react in the same way again, we form habits. We are not adaptive."

He cites an example: a patient, a fellow doctor, had come to him about an incident three months earlier. A romantic dinner in a restaurant with his wife had been ruined because of noise at a neighbouring table. The waiter declined to intervene; however, his wife did not regard the neighbouring diners as excessively disruptive. "It was his intolerance to the noise, rather than the noise itself, that was a problem," Sherlock says. "Take the noise away and he would have found something else to be intolerant of. If we can learn to tolerate things, they cease to be a problem."

Doesn't this sound suspiciously like becoming a sop to all the unpleasantness that life throws at us? Sherlock rejects this wholeheartedly. "If we learn to tolerate a feeling, then something changes. It is not grinning and bearing it. It is being willing to let go of the thought 'I must have my own way.'"

It is very different, he admits, from the usual therapeutic approach: "Medical opinion says patients must face their problems. Well, you cannot tell people who cannot swim that the best way to learn is by pushing them off a boat in the middle of the ocean."

ABT, which Sherlock has pioneered at his clinics in Oxford and London, is controversial because it is so different. He has yet to publish his work in the prestigious medical journals reviewed by his peers, such as *The Lancet* or the *British Medical Journal*. However, he has engaged the interest of Dr Chris John, a GP in



Robyn Broome's depression after the birth of Jack coincided with stress at work, ill-health and feeling homesick: "I feel that I have some control back"

Wales who is also involved with the training of young doctors. Concerned by the rates of depression in the medical profession, John has encouraged about 20 doctors to undergo ABT. He says: "Doctors have a horror of being labelled 'sick'. But they are keen on ABT because it is a very practical therapy, and it isn't intrusive. Doctors generally don't like being counselled."

He thinks that ABT is rapidly gaining credibility in medical circles partly because it has a "sound, coherent base". He describes it as a physical fitness plan for emotions. "You wouldn't do a 20-mile run without taking a few runs around the block. But most of us try to avoid emotional difficulties. That is why we have such problems coping in a crisis. ABT gives you an increased capacity for coping with mood states."

Grateful patients are also willing to champion ABT. Among them is Robyn Broome, a 33-year-old social worker from Oxford, who became depressed shortly after having her first child, Jack, two years ago. Her postnatal depression coincided with stresses at work: she was also missing her family in Australia and had a problem with digestion. After two weeks of miserable days and sleepless nights, she was put on antidepressants. In an effort to come off the drugs, she began seeing Sherlock a year ago.

Much of Broome's anxiety came from being unable to switch off. "I would think about what we were going to have for dinner, where we would be living next year or about work." Now she concentrates on the here and now. She says: "I allow thoughts to come in on one side of my head and out the other. I can carry on with things I don't want to do because I don't think about them. I am coping much better with life now. Instead of my stress controlling me, I feel that I have some con-

trol back." It required a lot of commitment, and she admits that she was worried about turning into an emotionless robot. But after following Sherlock's advice, she thinks that her fears were misplaced: "I can still express and feel emotions, but I can address them within myself. I do not need to behave differently."

As Broome quickly realised, the key to ABT is self-discipline. Sherlock believes that self-discipline over one's feelings begins with self-discipline in other aspects of our lives. That is why, to start with, he recommends that patients adopt a timetable for the day. His motto for this regime is "Just do it" (he finds it rather amusing that the sports company Nike has the same slogan, and claims that he thought of it first).

"Get up at the same time each day, no matter how you

feel. Don't rationalise it, don't give yourself a treat for doing it and don't think about all the household chores you can do before you go to work. Simply get up." This, he says, is designed to counteract the philosophy by which most of us live — how we feel controls what we do.

His next piece of advice is to not procrastinate. Deal with telephone calls, letters and tasks when you get them. He phrases it more elegantly: "Make an effort to respond to whatever calls us." That way, he says, things that preoccupy us and stress us out gradually turn into normal everyday activities.

Another recommendation is to pay complete attention to whatever we are doing. Sherlock says: "We spend well over 50 per cent of our lives thinking about something other than what we are doing. For example, when you eat, don't

have the television or radio on. Just taste the food."

Lastly, he says, work with your feelings: "When you get a feeling, don't tense up against it. Don't suppress it, express it or distract from it. Say 'yes' to it in your head and simply feel it for a few seconds. That's all that's necessary."

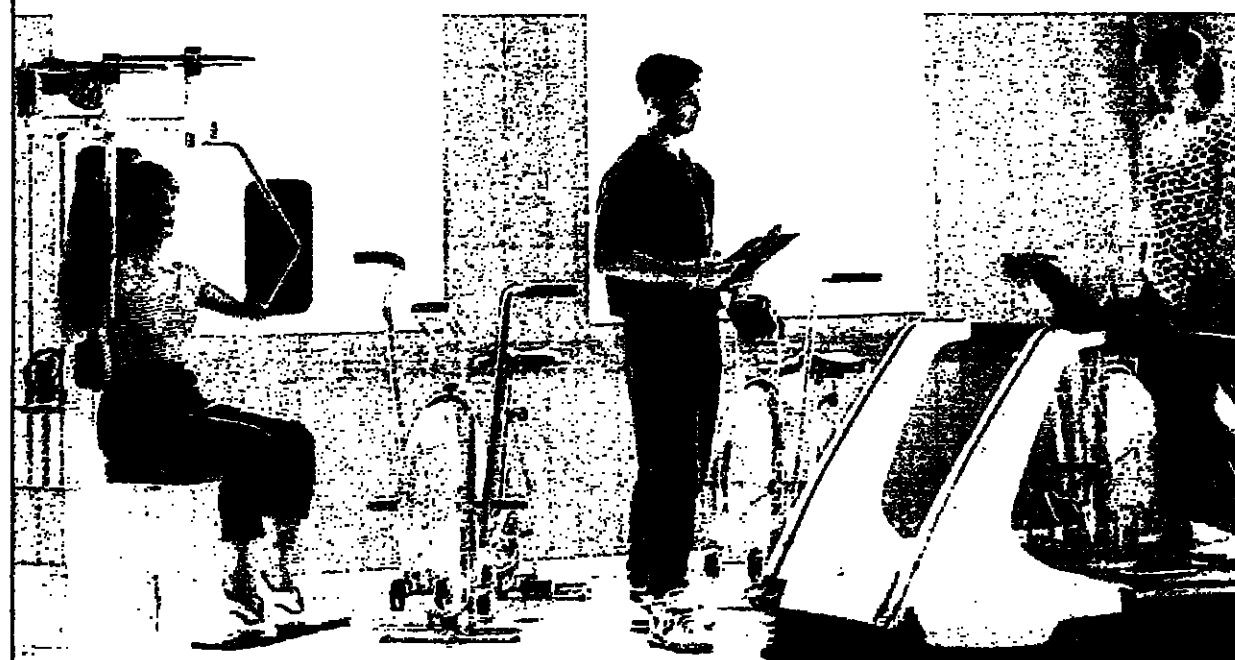
Sherlock is not overly concerned that ABT is still outside the mainstream: what matters is that he can help people to deal effectively with their depression, anxiety, panic attacks or even obsessive compulsive disorder. "What has struck me over the years is how well people take to ABT," he says quietly. "In 20 years I have never had such positive and grateful feedback. I find that very moving."

Gary Jenkins says: "My thoughts used to take over and drag me down. I was living in my head. Now I am not dwelling in the past or considering the future. I am living for the here and now, for this moment in this place in space and time."

Dr Clive Sherlock: 01865 308700

If we learn to tolerate things, they cease to be a problem

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Why tamoxifen is so special

VIAGRA was devised to treat angina. Its effect on the blood supply to the heart muscle wasn't earth-shattering, but its power to affect the circulation so blood reached parts hitherto starved of nourishment, has turned it into one of the fastest selling drugs ever.

Likewise, tamoxifen, the anti-cancer drug, was one of a group of preparations being investigated as a contraceptive — a morning-after pill. It didn't work but, just like Viagra, failure became a success. All around the world there are now many thousands of women recovering from breast cancer who owe their continued existence to the drug. Tamoxifen, marketed as Nolvadex, is an anti-estrogen. Interest waned once it was found that it was not the answer to a maiden's prayer.

Dr Craig Jordan had faith in the potential of anti-estrogens as a treatment for breast cancer and at Massachusetts' Worcester Foundation his research, together with the work of Dr Arthur Walpole of ICI, into the anti-tumour activity of tamoxifen led to the development of this invaluable drug. He has recently updated his book *Tamoxifen*, which deals with the many questions patients ask doctors about it.

Breast cancer is increasing in Britain but the good news, according to Professor Trevor Powles, the director of the breast unit at the Royal Marsden Hospital in London and Sutton, Surrey, is that despite this, the likelihood of death of a sufferer from the disease has fallen since 1990 by 15 per cent. In his opinion, this reduction in mortality has become apparent too soon for it to be attributed to screening or chemotherapy. "This truly dramatic drop in the graph of the mortality is very likely to be the result of the increasing use of tamoxifen," he says.

Tamoxifen reduces the chance of a woman with cancer of the breast from dying from her particular tumour by 30 per cent. The evidence is that this is a persistent effect and the improved likelihood

MEDICINE CHEST

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

of survival remains apparent for at least 15 years.

Not all breast cancers are the same — 75 per cent have oestrogen receptors which can be demonstrated by a simple test in the pathology laboratory. If they have these receptors, the patients, whether pre or post-menopausal, should certainly be taking tamoxifen, however early the diagnosis, for not less than five years.

Likewise, there is an argument for giving chemotherapy to the 25 per cent of women whose tumours don't have oestrogen-receptors. Tamoxifen not only reduces recurrence of the original tumour, it also reduces by more than 50 per cent the chance of a woman developing another primary breast cancer in the opposite breast.

The Americans are so impressed by tamoxifen that they now license it as a drug to prevent breast cancer in high-risk women. In Britain we are slightly more cautious. So efficient has become the early detection and treatment of patients with small cancers of the breast, that the lives ac-

tually saved by prophylactic prescription of tamoxifen have to be balanced against the side-effects.

Large European trials are now under way to compare these risks. The comparatively rare side-effects of tamoxifen must always be considered in relation to its efficacy in reducing the death rate from breast cancer. However, there is a small but appreciable increase in endometrial carcinoma — a tumour of the womb — and it has a deleterious effect on the liver equivalent to that of the Pill. Conversely, it lowers low-density cholesterol, and there are two reports of a reduction in heart attacks. In post-menopausal women tamoxifen makes osteoporosis less likely. There is plenty of other

good news about breast cancer. Patients who have a stage I or stage II tumour when the cancer is still confined either to the breast or the glands in the armpits, have a five-year survival rate of about 80 per cent. In some units the five-year survival rate is more than 90 per cent. The earlier the disease is diagnosed, the more likely the patient is to thrive. In America, where screening is well advanced, less than 10 per cent of breast cancers are diagnosed at stage III or IV, when they have already spread further afield.

● *Tamoxifen, for the Treatment and Prevention of Breast Cancer*, PRR Melville, New York 488 South Service Road, Melville NY 11747. ISBN 1-891-483-00-5.

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James Dyson was nine when his father died. That has driven the millionaire inventor ever since. Interview by **Moira Petty**

It would
thrill me
to hear
people say:
I'll Dyson
the room

Firearms plus c

Children equals blood

Cleaning up: James Dyson, the inventor of the bagless vacuum cleaner, is rumoured to be working on a superfast washing machine that should add to his £400 million fortune

odshed. Vanora

Bennett reports



254121



Harris, aged 9, was riding a bike in the street near his Texas home last November when disaster struck. "Michael J. and his friend were just visitin' everybody else in the neighbourhood," recalls his mother, her voice oddly calm. "They came across Zachary, and this other little boy told Zachary: 'There he is. There's Michael J. Shoot him.' And he did. Cold blood. Blam blam. Just shot him in his head."

Just why an 11-year-old — arrested later — would pull a

gun on a nine-year-old remains unclear. But Michael's story — part of his brain was destroyed but he miraculously survived — is a heart-rending example of the dangers resulting from America's deadly

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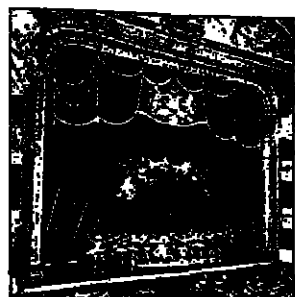
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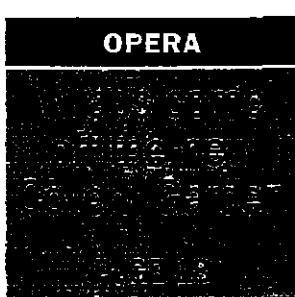
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Costner dances with pussy-cats

What movies are Americans going out to see? Giles Whittell begins a new weekly survey of what's hot and happening in Hollywood

Watching Kevin Costner trying to get back on his horse as a movie star is like watching Ivan Lendl trying to win Wimbledon: frustrating. He has the ability, the entourage and the reservoir of long-suffering public support, but he keeps blowing it because deep down he doesn't seem to want it enough.

In Hollywood they have a quicker way of saying this. Costner has an attitude problem, and the attitude is "screw you". It applies to studio executives and audiences alike and it emerged during the making of two of the more disastrous disaster movies of recent times. Perversity and reckless courage were enough — just — to explain the \$175 million whirlpool that was *Waterworld*, but only insolence could account for the more recent Costner debacle, *The Postman*, which had audiences howling in all the wrong places, even during the trailer, and which caused one critic to write: "Anyone who buys into this has been licking too many stamps."

Now we have *Message in a Bottle*, a big, sloppy Valentine's Day kiss for Costner die-hard and a make-or-break film for the man himself. As usual nowadays, he is producer as well as star, having lent his name early on to Denise DiNovi's efforts to turn Nicholas Sparks's bestseller of the same name into another *Bridges of Madison County*. As usual, Costner is grumpy, or inscrutable, or deliciously taciturn, depending on your point of view. But this time, luckily for Costner Inc, the grumpiness has been sublimated into a love story that could make serious money even though it is not especially good.

Gone, for one thing, is the post-apocalyptic rhetoric of *The Postman*. In this film Costner's character hardly speaks at all. Instead he builds and restores beautiful oak schooners and channels his powers of expression into bottled messages to his dear deceased wife. They read uncomfortably like the sides of Hallmark cards, but when Robin Wright Penn finds one on a Cape Cod beach and inadvertently lets it be published by the *Chicago Tribune*, where she works, it takes the Midwest by storm.

Penn, wife of Sean, is gorgeous in an unfashionably grown-up sort of way. She can even make a rental car look



glamorous. Arriving in one, she finds her mystery writer in an enchanting oceanfront Victorian house on North Carolina's Outer Banks, where he cooks her a steak ("It's the best thing I do," he mutters, though we never see the proof). Then they fall in love. What follows will activate most tear ducts, and this is some achievement since it involves scant plot and even less dialogue, confirming instead what Napa Valley marketing men have been telling us for years: a swirling half-full glass of cabernet means "Sssh! Thinking in progress."

If they are worth it, fragile young stars or Hugh Grants undergoing career reconstruction tend to be given what the industry calls "protection". They are cast alongside charismatic older pros to make them look good. Costner is protected here, but subtly, as befits a strapping 43-year-old former idol with an ego that apparently refuses to recognise the "former".

His most consistent bulwark is cinematography that often makes *Message in a Bottle* feel like *Out of Africa* in fishing sweaters. The North Atlantic coast has never looked better, and nor, for that matter, has the inside of a newspaper. Director Luis Mandoki, who brought you Meg Ryan in the equally syrupy *When a Man Loves a Woman*, has created a *Chicago Tribune* staff would not recognise, with gleaming cubicles and a staff of relaxed models whose only concern seems to be Penn's character's emotional wellbeing. There is an exception in the excellent Robble Coltrane. He plays her editor with a flawless American accent — except when he's growling at the office lesbian and seems to have a lucrative career in cameos ahead of him if only he can get a grip on his alarming girth.

But Costner's chief human support, coming within a wink of stealing the whole film, is Paul Newman. As Dodge, the boat-builder's father, his every ossified glance is a reminder that true stars are simply mov-



After blowing his credibility with *Waterworld* and *The Postman*, Kevin Costner falls back on the heavyweight support of Paul Newman for the new and weepy *Message in a Bottle*

ing models. To get your money's worth you needn't root for them or even listen; only watch. "Newman has reached the stage of his career where he has so much presence and skill to call upon that each new role feels like a gift we are not quite worthy of," the hard-to-please Kenneth Turan gushed in Friday's *Los Angeles Times*. He succumbed to the film despite its sepia-tinted script, but Janet Maslin, his *New York Times* counterpart, could not. Penn's character, she complained acidly, "is one of those lonely, high-powered career women who, as movies of the late 1990s like to tell us, would secretly be happier digging clams with the right wise, down-to-earth, lonely guy". The kind of guy Costner can undeniably play.

Meanwhile, holding his own in a very different sort of genre is Mel Gibson, a far more versatile actor who has chosen to stay in the \$20 million-per-film club by churning out his quota of mediocre action thrillers. His latest is *Payback*, directed by Brian Helgeland but held over from last year until its release ten days ago so that Gibson could reshoot large chunks of it and make it much more violent. It made \$21 million on its opening weekend and will probably go on to make five times as much. That constitutes a hit — something Costner badly needs. Whether he truly wants it is another matter.

The return of Terrence Malick dominates the first of Geoff Brown's Berlin Film Festival reports

Deep in the jungle something stirs



Dog soldier: Sean Penn joins the American assault on the Solomon Islands in Terrence Malick's *The Thin Red Line*

Did you ever think you would reach the day when John Travolta would be cast as a brigadier-general, replete with military bark and abrupt moustache? Did you ever think you would see another film directed by Terrence Malick? That day is here, at least in Berlin, where *The Thin Red Line* already seems the obvious contender, so far, for the Film Festival's top prize, the Golden Bear.

Not that the rest of Berlin's competition line-up could be considered ruff-raff. For the last festival of the millennium, the organisers have hauled in new films by the likes of Robert Altman, David Cronenberg, Stephen Frears, Bertrand Tavernier and Claude Chabrol. We shall see how they fare in the next few days.

Twenty years have passed since Malick, the director of those immaculate 1970s classics *Badlands* and *Days of Heaven*, last shouted "Action!", years in which the face of mainstream movies has changed almost beyond recognition. Malick, however, has kept faith with his own poetic, image-driven cinema. Part of the joy and joy of this adaptation of James Jones's war novel about an American unit fighting in Guadalcanal in 1942 lies in its refusal to splatter the audience with sensa-

tions. To those used to being led by the nose, the film might seem low on narrative. There are no leading characters as such: the story's perspective keeps shifting as Elias Koteas's rifle company face demands from the blunt and ambitious Nick Nolte to take hill 210 from the Japanese — or else. And every human, even John Travolta, faces intense competition from the natural beauty of the Solomon Islands and its inhabitants: the inscrutable alligator; the long grass along which the camera flies so lyrically; the charred bird fluttering towards death. Characters' interior thoughts provide another thread. Where does violence come from? Where does love come from? *The Thin Red Line* makes you think, feel and see in a subtler, more penetrating way than a realistic war movie such as *Saving Private Ryan*. Cherish it when the film comes to London in a few weeks' time.

The beguiter of *Private Ryan*, Steven Spielberg, ushered in a special screening of *The Last Days*, James Moll's Oscar-nominated documentary relaying the memories of five Auschwitz survivors. Pure-

Rudolph and his actors were pushing too hard for their effects. It was also clear that time had rubbed some gloss off Vonnegut's 1973 satire of American consumer society. Willis plays Dwayne Hoover, the car dealer king of Midland City, usually seen smiling madly on lurid television advertisements. But now the smile has cracked. Existential dread steals over him, just as a dishevelled pulp-fiction writer (Albert Finney) is staggering towards the town, possibly bearing the meaning of life. Some moments are worth savouring — Nick Nolte in red lady's lingerie is not a sight you forget — yet the noise of ancient targets being whacked to death is pretty deafening.

In a busy festival such as Berlin's, a disappointment can easily be followed by a pleasant surprise. After last year's two Danish films made according to the "Dogma" aesthetic (no production artifice, only a hand-held camera), some of us

blanched at the thought of another. But Søren Kargh-Jacobsen's *Mifune* proved so absorbing that the Dogma gimmick seemed immaterial. The yuppie hero is forced to face up to his seedy family when his retarded brother is left alone on a crumbling farm after their father's death. Advertising for a housekeeper, they get a hooker instead. The title refers to Toshio Mifune, but to find out how the late Japanese actor fits into the picture you will just have to see the film.

Away from the competition, the usual glories, follies and failures are being screened round the clock. Shirley MacLaine is being fêted, the complete works of Otto Preminger are being exhumed. And Aki Kaurismäki, Finland's melancholy jester, is in town with a silent movie. *Juha* is based on a 1911 novel famous and melodramatic enough to have been filmed three times before. It sounds a bit like *Karnaval*: young wife is whisked away to the city by a raffish passer-by; lump of a husband sets off with an axe. The removal of words makes little difference to Kaurismäki's laid-back style, but the silence underlines how poverty-stricken modern visual storytelling is compared with the silent masters.

US BOX OFFICE TAKINGS

1	(*) Payback (Paramount)	\$21.2m/\$21.2m
2	(1) The Matrix (Miramax)	\$11.6m/\$30.7m
3	(2) Patch Adams (Universal)	\$4.4m/\$122.4m
4	(3) Varsity Blues (Paramount)	\$3.8m/\$44.3m
5	(4) Saving Private Ryan (DreamWorks)	\$3.6m/\$51.8m
6	(5) Shakespeare in Love (Miramax)	\$3.5m/\$38.1m
7	(6) A Civil Action (Buena Vista)	\$3.1m/\$51.6m
8	(7) Stepmom (Sony)	\$2.5m/\$87.2m
9	(8) Simply Irresistible (Fox)	\$2.2m/\$12.2m
10	(9) You've Got Mail (Warner)	\$2.2m/\$11.1m

* Figure in brackets indicates last week's position. First amount is weekend takings Feb 5-7; second is total so far

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Glam or sham?

POP

It's St Valentine's Night and libidinous teens are getting to grips with each other in the dark corners of the Saint Francis Xavier Hall, Dublin, while on stage an androgynous individual sings about having sex with a robot. The Jesuit missionary after whom the hall is named is surely spinning in his grave.

This would, I'm sure, amuse Brian Molko, the aforementioned paragon of androgyny, who as lead singer with Placebo is on something of a mission to stir things up by flaunting his sexual ambiguity while tackling subjects of an extreme nature in his lyrics.

But the fact of the matter is that Placebo are a fair to middling amalgam of glam and grunge, using the style manifesto of Ziggy Stardust-era Bowie to add a splash of colour to their hard-bitten guitar sound. On songs such as *You Don't Care About Us* and *Every You Every Me* it

works to good effect, but it's hard to dispel the feeling that Placebo are not as good as they think they are. There is still the suspicion that their star may wane with the passing of the *Velvet Goldmine* bandwagon.

It's obvious that Molko, bassist/guitarist Stefan Olsdal and drummer Steve Hewitt are becoming an increasingly compact unit, but their cause wasn't helped by the wretched acoustics of the SFX, which blunted the visceral attack of *You Don't Care About Us* and betrayed the subtlety of the slower numbers such as *The Crawl*.

For the encore, *Pure Morning* and *Teenage Angst* seemed like barbed Valentine greetings from arch anti-romantics. Not that it bothered those couples in the corner.

NICK KELLY

Richard Coyle's review of Picasso at the Barbican will appear tomorrow

Fantastic...
David Hockney
Portraits by
Ingres
The sober mood was welcome after a day that brought both Manuel Gomez Pereira's hollow sex thriller, *Between Your Legs*, and Thomas Vincent's *Karnaval*, a French competition entry. Did you know that Duncankirk spends much of February fighting off winter gloom by parading through the streets in garish costumes and ladies' wigs, drinking mightily and shouting rude songs? Vincent, a first-time director, uses the carnival as background and catalyst to a modest triangular drama. Arab misfit loves put-upon young wife. Boorish husband foams at the mouth. It passed the time while waiting for something better.
Something, perhaps, like Alan Rudolph's *Breakfast of Champions*? A Kurt Vonnegut novel; Bruce Willis in one of his offbeat roles; a quirky director on an upswing after the delights of *Afterglow*; the signs looked favourable. It soon became apparent, however, that

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Curtain up on the new Garden

Marcus Binney explores the magnificent new foyers and the state-of-the-art backstage facilities of the redeveloped Royal Opera House

This morning, at once fearfully and proudly, the Royal Opera House opens its doors to the press for the first preview of its massive building works. In many minds will be the same question: has the £214 million project been a colossal waste of money? Could a new, much bigger 3,000-seat opera house not have been had for half the price on a new site south of the river?

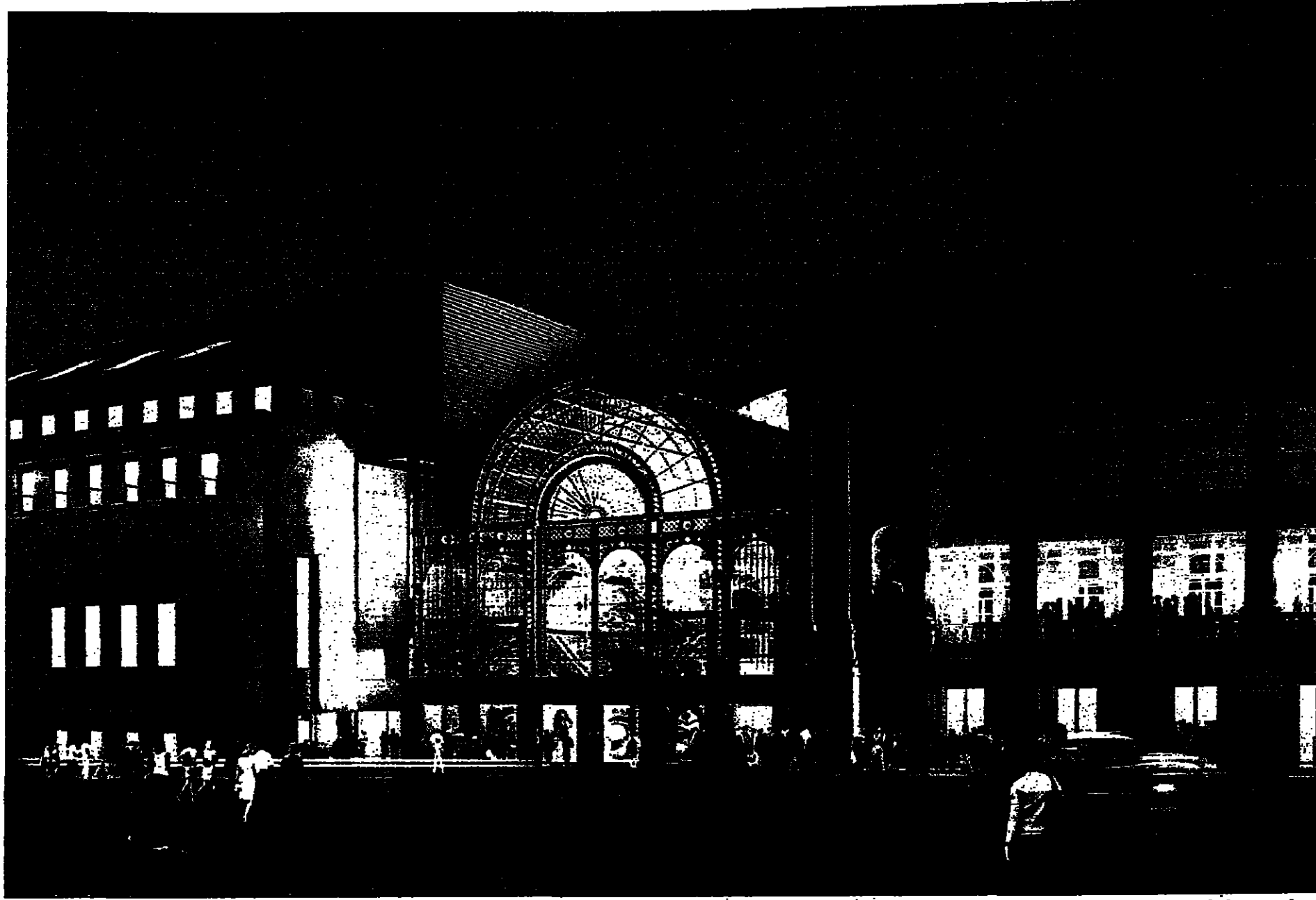
Covent Garden may never be the People's Opera, but the most obvious benefits of the £130 million being spent on actual construction (£95 million so far) are to the performers and purchasers of the cheapest seats who used to suffocate in the "gods". Here is the best use of rooftop space London has ever seen, new foyers that compel you to explore the building, an exquisitely restored auditorium, and a backstage and fly tower that, for fast flexible working and breathtaking stage effects, should equal if not surpass any theatre in the world.

With a whole city block covering 2.5 acres finally at their disposal, the architects Jeremy Dixon and Edward Jones have provided backstage areas lofty enough for jet liners. A uniform minimum clear height of 11 metres allows large built

scenery for six different productions to be constantly available, in a continuous open space running 110 metres diagonally across the site — from Floral Street to Russell Street.

For speed of movement, the scenery will be stored in 26 large wagons that can be instantly motorised by attaching caterpillar tracks, or (in an emergency) manhandled. Huge sliding doors, 70 tonnes apiece, make it possible to separate stage and backstage area, allowing the construction of scenery and rehearsals of three different productions simultaneously. And the new triple-height fly tower has seven lighting bridges and allows one set of flying scenery to be stored above another, as well as hoists to lift whole sections of built scenery.

Under the guiding eye of the decorator David Milnarcic, the auditorium has emerged in ravishing pale blue and gold (have no fear, the seats will be in familiar red velvet). Dull bronze paint has been replaced by judicious gilding of highlights rather than whole panels. The biggest change is the removal of the straight stair up to the back of the stalls in favour of twin curving arms which allow the rake of the seats to be raised and sightlines improved. Air condition-



A computer-generated image shows how the new Bow Street front of the redeveloped Royal Opera House and Floral Hall will look. The foyer spaces have been vastly increased

ing, as at Glyndebourne, is introduced beneath each seat. An ingenious device which allows the proscenium arch to be widened by a metre is now in operation again. New wing elevators make it possible to enlarge the pit to the size needed for Wagner or Strauss.

After this vast expenditure the criticism can be made that there are just 56 extra seats — bringing the total to 2,157. Dixon replies: "The essential point is that the old auditorium was the right size."

To make the most of the new Covent Garden you will need to arrive as the doors open at

six. The big change comes with the reconstruction of the iron and glass Floral Hall as the main foyer, where the whole audience can gather. You enter at the top of the first flight of the old grand stair. A full-height mirror at the end neatly doubles the apparent length of the hall. In the colonnades are mezzanine galleries where you can dine elegantly before a performance.

A pair of dramatically long escalators ascend to the amphitheatre bars. Halfway up you have the thrill of bursting through the ceiling and seeing the majestic Crystal Palace-style glass roof of the Floral Hall glowing from within. The

amphitheatre bar not only has a balcony looking down into the hall, but also long open-air loggias with a panoramic view over Covent Garden Piazza and an unexpected glimpse of Nelson on his column.

Hidden away on top of all this is a brilliantly contrived rooftop village with enough space for the Royal Ballet to do its practice on site. One small and three full-size ballet studios open onto a bright sitting-out space with huge window seats and a secluded outdoor terrace where ballet dancers (who like to smoke) can retreat to light up and sunbathe.

When fully operational, a thousand people will be at work on site, with costume making, cloth dyeing, wig making and jewellery set familiarly under the eaves in a series of cosy, well-lit studio spaces. Singers' dressing rooms have glorious views over the Piazza.

The building could make both opera and the opera house more accessible. A public walk runs through the building from the corner of the Piazza to Bow Street. There is a new studio theatre in the basement. Around the Piazza the new arcades by Dixon and Jones form an elegant revival of "stripped down" 1930s classicism, with Portland stone columns rising to a plain white vault inspired by San Giorgio Maggiore in Venice.

By contrast, their new facades along Russell Street and Bow Street are bland. But they have one merit: their tameness sets off the appeal of the modest buildings opposite which give Covent Garden its distinctive character.

Will the investment in new technology see an end to the Spanish practices that bedevilled the old opera house? That is still an open question. Perhaps Chris Smith, the Culture Secretary, should adopt the 2-2-1 principle of funding. Give the opera house chairman Sir Colin Southgate the £25 million he wants for the first year, reduce it to two-thirds the next year, a third the year after, and zilch after that. The Historic Royal Palaces agency, which looks after the Tower of London and Hampton Court, has progressively freed itself from subsidy in this manner.

The Opera House has phenomenal potential for hiring out the Floral Hall, the roof terraces and the former crush bar beneath the portico for events, as well as deploying them seductively for the opera's own fund-raising. This is a building that has all the glamour, modernity and facilities that money can buy — and it must be made to pay its way.



One of the new studios that allow the Royal Ballet to rehearse permanently at Covent Garden



Inside the redeveloped Floral Hall. Dramatic escalators ascend to the amphitheatre bars

WRITTEN when he was just 16, Mendelssohn's Octet remains one of the most celebrated of 19th-century string works, and there are now many fine recordings of it. Two strong versions come from the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields Chamber Ensemble. The first (Philips, 1978) is led with ruthless precision by Iona Brown; the second (Chandos, 1989), led by Kenneth Sillito, is more human. But Sillito and Brown played on a far better recording back in 1968. This was by the Melos Ensemble of London. This EMI recording is my

runner-up especially given the wonderful Schubert Octet you get with it. Surpassing all other recordings, however, is the one (on Telarc, CD 80142, £14.99) by a collaboration of two quartets, the Cleveland and the Melos. Any performance that leaves players and listeners alike in need of a shower gets my vote. The eight of them sound both youthful and mature, tightly unani-

mous and wildly individual, seriously professional and delightfully amateur all at once, just like one imagines the first performance to have been in the Mendelssohns' Berlin home in 1825.

ANDREW MANZE

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Labour, back to its bad old ways

Roy Hattersley on the relapse to block votes and ballot rigging

So it has come to this. After all the fine talk about returning power to the people, Labour has abandoned the one reform which gave power to its own rank-and-file members. Blairism dictates that, in principle, democracy must be extended at every level. But in practice, that means only so long as Tony Blair can be guaranteed the result which he wants.

Nicolas Ceausescu did not live in vain. Elections begin with the identification of the winning candidate. The voting system is then adjusted to guarantee the desired result. Few people doubt that the Welsh Labour Party wants to be led into May's assembly elections by Rhodri Morgan. Were a choice to be made on the principle of one member one vote — the principle by which Tony Blair became leader — Morgan would be the landslide winner. But Labour has reverted to the worst sort of electoral college. The big unions — most of which have not bothered to ballot their members — will cast their entire block vote for a single candidate while scarcely considering his rival's merits. They will follow Downing Street's instruction in the hope that Alun Michael gets the job. If that happens, then Michael will have been handed it by Tony Blair.

On all the available evidence, most Welsh members of the Transport and General Workers Union want Morgan to head Labour's campaign in Wales. Yet the union's Cardiff leadership decided to support Michael. The explanation of such conduct is even more damaging to Labour's reputation than the decision itself.

George Wright, the T&G's Welsh secretary, told last night's *Panorama* that "devolution is minor to the Westminster Government". That view will certainly be reproduced on election posters when the election comes and their leaflets will probably repeat the rest of Mr Wright's views on the subject. "We backed Blair and we backed the Labour Government. Ten times more important than the Welsh assembly."

It is not only devotion that Mr Wright holds cheap. He is no more enthusiastic for democracy. A week earlier he had explained that he could not ballot his individual members on the subject of assembly leadership without borrowing money from the London head office — an indignity he would not impose on the principality. Last night, his position had changed. He did not even "prefer" to operate one member one vote. And he explained why. "The main reason is that it is not, surprisingly enough, a priority for us." It was not clear if it was downgrading devolution or democracy. Either way, it is a sad reflection on how the Labour Party works these days.

Yet it is barely five years since John Smith fought — and just won — the historic battle for one member one vote. And now, John Prescott — whose irresistible, incomprehensible summing up may

well have made the difference between defeat and victory — looks on while the idea is cast aside in deference to the Prime Minister's passion for uniformity and his strange fear of the slightest dissent. Have no doubt that pleasing the Prime Minister is the motive for most of those trade union leaders who are supporting Alun Michael. AEU delegates who were interviewed on *Panorama* were explicit: "Tony Blair came out against Rhodri Morgan." So Michael gets every one of the union's 60,000 votes. When we hear Mr Blair tell party members: "Don't let the media run this election" the sub-text is obvious enough. He is determined to run it — and decide the winner — himself.

Yet he has nothing to fear from the defeat of Alun Michael. Rhodri Morgan is not a wild left-winger. Indeed, when he first entered Parliament, he was thought to be on the right of the Tribune group, which counted one Tony Blair among its members. His crime is to understand and believe in devolution. By its nature, devolution means that sometimes Cardiff will disagree with London. If the Prime Minister is not prepared to risk the leader of the Welsh assembly arguing for Wales, he is denying the purpose of the assembly's existence. And

The Welsh dragon is being turned into a poodle

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What every baby knows

Don't let guilty folk memories deny single mothers the shelter they crave

There should be a name for the administrative paralysis which is brought on by a fear of historic evils repeating themselves. Yesterday perhaps. Retro-dread? It is a recurring phenomenon: there you are, bowing merrily along with a new idea, and abruptly somebody points out a parallel between the new plan and something which went wrong in an earlier and crueler age. Whereon everyone gets depressed and obscurely ashamed, and the new idea is tarnished before it is even properly turned out of the mould.

Sometimes retrophobia is useful. The horrors of Nazi eugenics make us wary of new reproductive technology; the history of cholera and typhoid keep public utilities up to the mark. But everyone has a private list of times that it has worked against sense. You might say that it was not really a fear of power cuts which made pre-1980 governments unreasonably indulgent towards the National Union of Mineworkers, but rather the historical guilt to us by Victorian mine owners. A few bars of *The Graceland* from a folk singer is very effective in melting away any will to fight against a man with coal dust on his hands.

The same applies to means testing: the most cautious attempt to steer benefits towards the genuinely poor inevitably evokes stone-faced officials scolding claimants for keeping a pet cat when they could be eating the fish-heads themselves, or owning one more chair than the number of people in the family. The introduction of prescription charges — albeit with wide exemptions — elicited a torrent of largely irrelevant reminiscence about infants dying for fear of the doctor's bill. Attempts to reintroduce factual knowledge into education leads to cries of *Graceland*. The most timid observation that a 15-year-old truant might be better off working is generally enough to provoke an accusation that the speaker wants to send seven-year-olds up chimneys and light the fire beneath them.

Old shames, old traumas, hang around a long time. "Never again!" is a powerful reformer's cry, and so it should be but 50 years on it can lead to a situation where nobody is willing to do anything, however sensible, which might possibly lead to an accusation of "putting the clock back". Look at the mess we are in over mental patients: because of the grim asylums and vindictive

incarceration of bygone times, we now find it excruciatingly hard to admit that, for a few poor souls, institutions are kinder and safer than "community" can ever be.

Retrophobia, however, is on the wane. It was one of Margaret Thatcher's peculiar and rather alarming strengths that she was sufficiently insensitive to be immune to it. She even risked the famous line about Victorian Values. Her legacy is that, now, even a Labour Prime Minister feels able to tweak the tails of sacred cows and think the unthinkable (and, indeed, to hobnob prodigally with the Very Far Man Who Waters the Workers' Beer, but that's another story). Anyway, the latest bit of governmental unthinkability is that young, unsupported mothers could do with a network of hostels, one in every town, to shelter them and their babies while they study or find work.

It is brave of the Social Exclusion Unit to bring this one up again, especially so soon after Margaret Thatcher's derided remarks about handing such girls over to Churches to look after. The immediate and inevitable reaction in some quarters will be to raise the shadow of a Victorian Home for Fallen Women, where sad, shamed figures scrubbed stone floors and were told to be grateful for it and, more recently, of certain mother-and-baby homes of the Sixties, where unmarried mothers were dumped by their shocked parents, lectured daily on their sinfulness, made to breastfeed a baby doomed to adoption, and then shut in a locked room on the day the adoptive parents drove it away.

All these things were real, although even in the 1950s and 1960s there were also kindly, companionable homes of which the inmates carry fond memories. I was in a Sheffield side-street once, watching a Salvation Army procession and

service. Next to me stood a middle-aged woman from one of the little houses, with a tired, good-natured face. I said something inane about the music brightening up the dull morning, and she volunteered that it wasn't just the music that brought her out of doors.

"I like the Sallies," she said. "Reminds me of happy days, in the mother-and-baby home when I was 17, with my first. We had some good laughs there." They found her a job, and after she left "they used to drop

by, and the baby always had a present at Christmas". The praying, she observed, was a bit wearing, as she was "not that way inclined", but of the human experience of the home she had only happy memories: the sort of hard-times, piggy, girlish, memories that most of us bring away from college halls of residence or first flat-shares.

Hostels could work, if the word on the street said that they were not bad places to spend a year or so. It is not long, after all, since some kind of hostel or dormitory life was part of everyone's experience. National Service, a YWCA, a boarding-house, college, or just a big, quarrelsome flatshare. It is a very recent idea (enthusiastically fostered by the housebuilding trade) that everyone, however young or single, needs to be a sole occupier. It is actually a rather lonely, unfriendly, unnatural state, if you are tied to a baby, a frighteningly claustrophobic one. So if they are tactful and liberal and entrusted to sensible organisations such as Newpin, rather than thin-lipped functionaries with a mania for rules, the new hostels could make babies safer, young mothers more hopeful, and memories happier.

comment@the-times.co.uk

from some girls, stiffened by retrophobia. It was fascinating to read in this paper yesterday the comment of Sami Khater, who moved into a flat alone at 17 with her baby. She loathed the idea. "In a mother-and-baby unit you would feel you were being judged and looked down upon. You would have to do everything by their rules and they could treat you like a child," she said. Yet she uses the Newpin day centre for parenting classes and personal development courses; she goes there most days and says it "builds up her confidence". So it is not the idea of help and advice that repels Sami, just the fear of not having her own front door to close, and of being judged and bossed.

Such fears could be dispelled. Any college student knows that you can live in a bedsitter and still have a lock on your door and a sense of self-determination and privacy. Any day-centre mother knows that you can accept support and take advice without abandoning your dignity. Most important of all is the company: at all ages, married or not, new mothers need other mothers. From sink estate to affluent commuter village, watch them band together in networks and clubs and playgroup circles. It is a process as natural as birth itself.

So hostels could work, if the word on the street said that they were not bad places to spend a year or so. It is not long, after all, since some kind of hostel or dormitory life was part of everyone's experience. National Service, a YWCA, a boarding-house, college, or just a big, quarrelsome flatshare. It is a very recent idea (enthusiastically fostered by the housebuilding trade) that everyone, however young or single, needs to be a sole occupier. It is actually a rather lonely, unfriendly, unnatural state, if you are tied to a baby, a frighteningly claustrophobic one. So if they are tactful and liberal and entrusted to sensible organisations such as Newpin, rather than thin-lipped functionaries with a mania for rules, the new hostels could make babies safer, young mothers more hopeful, and memories happier.

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Libby Purves

long: the idea seems to be that they could serve for a transitional period while she finished training, or found a job, and got used to the baby. Medical services and an experienced warden would minimise the terror of coping alone with spots and scares; co-operative baby-sitting could permit the odd night out. Accommodation could be of decent student standard, with shared cooking and common-room but reasonable bed privacy. You could have the option (which a lot of married new mothers would be grateful for) of a hot evening meal made by someone else. Above all, you could make friends; girls in the same boat as yourself. It would not be such a bad life better than a bad flat in a bad block, with too little money and only successive baby-hating boyfriends for company.

There will, of course, be resistance



Back to school

ERIC ANDERSON, the man of letters who shaped Tony Blair as a schoolboy, is returning to Eton. He is poised, I hear, to take over from Sir Antony Acland as Provost, relinquishing his position as Rector of Lincoln College, Oxford.

Anderson taught the future PM at Fettes College. Blair later described him as his favourite teacher. Anderson went on to be a highly successful Head Master at Eton before arriving at Lincoln in 1994. But Poppy, his wife, yearns to return. "She is not finding the same scope at Oxford. Wives of the heads of colleges are rather frozen out." The Provost is the resident governor's chairman, whose name is picked by the Fellows, his colleagues. Anderson will be one of the few non-Etonians in the post. But his appointment will no doubt progress smoothly as the final decision is made by No 10.

THE Cairngorm Whisky Company has launched a new brand, the Glenhoddle. Professional critics say, however, it tastes "immature" and lacks "strength of character".

Who knows?

AN ANCIENT Rembrandt has inspired a contemporary diagnosis. Professor Robert Bourne, an Aus-



tralian oncologist, says he has spotted a malignant skin cancer on the nose of *Man in Oriental Costume* (above), painted in 1637. "I can see a clear basal cell carcinoma there," he tells me. "It is possible to tell because the painting equals a clinical photograph in its clarity."

SIR CLIFF RICHARD is to prove his manhood by going head-to-head against Kelvin MacKenzie on Radio 4. The softly spoken happy-clapper will confront the candid head of Talk Radio to discuss the future of the music industry.

Fair cop

CAROLINE FLINT has all the right qualifications to act as the new Parliamentary Adviser to the Police Federation: the Labour MP once caught an armed bank robber.

In 1994, when she was a trade union researcher, she and Phil Cole, her partner, were in a bank hold-up. As the gunman fled, the duo tripped him up, hit him over



the head and held him down until the police arrived. They then helped to send the robber down for ten years. Her reward? A £15,000 retainer from the federation.

JOHN EDMONDS knows how to fire in style. The GMB union boss asked his chauffeur to deliver a dismissal letter to the home of Warren Glover. The former union toiler was sacked after he questioned the level of treatment dished out to Mick Fisher, a GMB employee and Edmonds' chum, after it was claimed that he had shaved a colleague.

Trashed

JEREMY IRONS and Sinead O'Sack are in trouble for littering the Irish countryside. Cork County Council discovered they have been leaving rubbish on a crossroads two miles from Killoe Castle, their home, because they are not on the dustbin rounds. "We know it's theirs," I am told, "because we go through all dumped rubbish."

JASPER GERARD

Frail old men with thick, foreign accents are tried for crimes committed half a century earlier. This does not teach any useful moral lesson

James Heartfield

The dead need memorials, but the Statute Book is not the place to erect them. This week a British jury has travelled to Belarus to hear evidence in the trial of a 77-year-old retired railwayman. The crimes for which Anthony Sawoniuk stands accused took place in that country in 1942. But the law under which he is prosecuted was passed in this country in 1991. The War Crimes Act is retrospective, and extra-territorial. It was not passed to redress an injustice in any ordinary sense of the word. It does not satisfy a legal need, but seeks to assuage a political appetite. And it thus stands uneasily with the values for which the Second World War was fought.

For the German Culture Minister, Michael Naumann, the continuing British fascination with that war seems like a national personality disorder, an example

of obsessive-compulsive behaviour from a country that cannot wash its hands of the past. But his exasperation at the weekend trial, the most dramatic current illustration of the war's capacity to grab the national imagination, is not evidence of a continuing obsession, but a symptom of two very modern phenomena.

The first is the itch to use laws as wreaths. In our emotionally correct age victims can win an argument by appeal to the High Court of grief, which always finds for suffering over logic. In the aftermath of the Dunblane tragedy the laws which were passed to govern handgun ownership were sombre Acts of Piety not sober Acts of Parliament. The need to show we sympathised overwhelmed other considerations. Hard cases make bad laws. But so do soft hearts.

The War Crimes Bill, which

preceded the handgun legislation, was another attempt to use the law to show sympathy. No one can deny the enormity of the crimes it sought to address. But no law could satisfy the emotional needs embodied in the War Crimes Bill. It is not possible to put evil on trial, only men. A Court of Law cannot re-run historical events, it can only punish people for what they did. And in the case of these trials the real danger exists that people will be punished to satisfy an emotional need, whether they are guilty or not.

The other modern development which was reflected in the War Crimes legislation is our growing cultural fascination with the Holocaust. As the memory of the event itself recedes, Holocaust films, plays,

documentaries and museums increase in number. The definitive film of the decade, *Schindler's List*, has inspired others, such as the Oscar-nominated Italian feature *Life is Beautiful*. From the Washington Museum to the Berlin memorial, the public appetite for recollections of the Holocaust is growing. The fascination permeates popular culture. Television advertisements are currently running for a new magazine devoted entirely to the Nazi horror.

It is right that we should never forget. But the culture of remembering is more than just recalling brute facts. It demands critical engagement. The current fascination with the Holocaust is a product of the demand for moral absolutes. When so much else seems uncertain it provides a

kind of comfort to know that there are some things which are black and white. If we can be sure of nothing else, we can be sure that the Holocaust was wrong. From the Anti-Nazi League to Margaret Thatcher, everyone agreed that the Holocaust should not be forgotten. With the war crimes law, the hope was that unalloyed evil would be put in the dock.

Instead, frail old men with thick, foreign accents are put on trial for crimes allegedly committed half a century earlier. These recent trials do not teach any useful moral lesson. If anything, they make a mockery of the real importance of the Holocaust. The original Nuremberg hearings had gravitas, with the Nazi elite such as Goering and Hess in the dock. Today we have a sorry spectacle of pensioners on trial. History repeats itself

— the first time as tragedy, the second time as farce.

These elderly East Europeans, even if guilty, are hardly representative of the might of Nazi Germany. German historians have been trying to pass the blame for the Holocaust onto the backward culture of Eastern Europe for years — as if the Nazis' atrocities were just an example of "going native". They must be thrilled to see those accused of being Ukrainian gofers carrying the can.

Anthony Sawoniuk, might be guilty or not. But his trial will not test evidence in any normal sense. Instead, the witnesses have been historians, debating the interpretation of past events. It is a trial that cannot meet the emotional demands behind the 1991 law, because those needs are beyond adjudication.

comment@the-times.co.uk



NO TIME FOR NOES

Unionists must not falter now

The essence of leadership according to Harold Wilson, at least in the Labour Party, was to drive so fast that there was no space for dissent to argue over direction. How David Trimble must wish he could accelerate events in Northern Ireland. The Ulster Unionist leader presides over a fissiparous party which threatens to deny him the clear-cut majority he needs to advance. Later today the Northern Ireland Assembly should vote on the shape and structure of the Province's future government. The process of negotiation which culminated in its construction was long, and fraught, enough to cause some members of Mr Trimble's party grave concern.

Those concerns reflected an understandable fear that nationalist Ireland had pressed its claims too vigorously during talks. But that fear should not be allowed to obscure a greater truth. The more comprehensive the Unionist support for the deal, which bears Mr Trimble's name, the stronger will be his authority when it comes to the greatest challenge ahead — insisting on the disarmament of the IRA.

For many within Ulster's pro-union majority the peace process has been a conveyor-belt of concessions. The reach and scope of nationalist Ireland's say in a part of the United Kingdom has grown. Paramilitary prisoners have been released early. The Royal Ulster Constabulary faces potentially painful change. And still the RA has refused to acknowledge the earning for peace by surrendering its arms. But it would be wrong for discontented Unionists to register their dissent by stinging against the package presented to them today. It would be worse than a time, it would be a mistake.

The more Unionists who vote No today,

the easier it will be for Republicans to wriggle out of their responsibilities. By supporting Mr Trimble, Unionists will show that they are sincere, and generous, in wishing to accommodate every legitimate nationalist concern about the future administration of the Province. Unionists will be seen to have swallowed doubts about detail for the sake of a greater prize. And by suppressing their own objections they will have left, starkly obvious, the real obstacle to progress — the IRA's arsenal.

Ministers have been told, in clear terms, that today's vote cannot be used to authorise the entry of Sinn Féin into a new government of Northern Ireland unless and until decommissioning begins. Those Unionists who fear that a Yes vote today will trigger an invitation to Gerry Adams to take his place in a ministerial limousine should recognise that such a call would result in David Trimble's refusal to acquiesce any further in the process. If his party backs Mr Trimble solidly today he will be able to claim he has done more than anyone to further partnership in the Province but cannot be asked to accept armed terrorists in his government.

Pressure is already building on the IRA. The campaign against "punishment beatings" has deprived them of support even in their heartland, and limited their room for operational manoeuvre. The Irish Prime Minister, Bertie Ahern, whatever his apparent equivocations, has still underlined the clear moral and political imperative for decommissioning before Sinn Féin can exercise administrative power.

The IRA are being pushed into a corner. Unionists should heed Harold Wilson's injunction and press home their advantage today without hesitation. They must not falter now.

STRAW'S JUDGMENT

A delicate balance between liberty and security

ere the rights of the individual and the need to protect society meet, a dilemma awaits every Home Secretary. Yesterday, Jack Straw confronted this conundrum as he outlined proposals to protect the public from people with dangerous personality disorders. In future, Mr Straw would have the power to order indefinite, but reviewable, detention of individuals. Crucially, this power would apply to people whether or not they had committed an offence. Mr Straw has promised to publish a consultative document, which will "outline in more detail" the problem and its solution. Top of those concerns is one raised by civil libertarians. They argue that individuals will be detained not for what they have done, but what they might do, and on the basis that they are suffering from a "personality disorder", the definition of which is a contestable matter.

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The Home Secretary will have few excuses if he omits such fine print from the consultation paper. Whitehall has been considering this area of policy for years, as has Mr Straw himself. When he was the Shadow Home Secretary, he published a consultation paper on this very subject. In such delicate areas as these, forethought and caution are essential requirements. Mr Straw, normally never short of both, must tread carefully.

A PALE PETITION

When views of the Parthenon are news and when not

ling to Professor Anthony Snodgrass, a senior classical scholar at Oxford, the British media have been assiduously debating the future of the Marbles. To those of our readers ink that we have already devoted an argument to this cause, this may be a surprise.

scholars accused us and other daily newspapers of "silence" over the Marbles. To those of our readers ink that we have already devoted an argument to this cause, this may be a surprise.

professor and his colleagues are scholars of ancient Greece and its modern world: they are well versed in the complex labyrinth that has made this issue for so many years. It lacks that indignant demagogic tone of the 1970s and which has every Greek politician's subtextual attempt to gain cheap patriotic votes. No points that they raise deserve the answer to the "silence" charge. The answer to the "silence" charge is to petition in the European Parliament. A petition is a class of documents which carries little weight in a body whose ability to translate high-minded demands into law is highly circumscribed.

move of the Parthenon Marbles from Athens is a favourite theme for many, one regularly pushed by the press and by others who

support the indefinite detention of individuals who have been found guilty of a crime and diagnosed as suffering from a personality disorder. Had the Home Secretary limited his plans to this, he would have had few critics. Yet his wish to allow a court to detain any individual with a "recognised severe personality disorder" who poses "a grave risk to the public" is, as the Home Secretary understates, "a very serious step" which can only be taken once a string of questions have been answered.

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Ethnic quotas for police questioned

From the Shadow Home Secretary

Sir, Your report of February 10 suggests that the Home Secretary is to impose a national target for recruiting police officers from ethnic minorities; and also that he intends to punish officers convicted of serious disciplinary offences by cutting their pensions by up to 75 per cent. Both these measures would be in conflict with other policies pursued by the Government.

The strength of many police forces in this country is now falling. Ministers, however, claim that this is not a matter for them. They do not even have a view on the strength of the Metropolitan Police in London, where the Home Secretary is still the police authority.

The most recent statement of government policy came in the debate on the police grant on February 4, when the Home Office Minister, Mr Boateng, said that the strength of forces was entirely a decision for chief constables. He said: "Now the Shadow Home Secretary wants to make numbers a matter for me and... the Home Secretary. However we do not intend to allow him to do so."

Is it then to be the Government's policy that it will require targets on the recruitment from ethnic minorities but will have no view on how strong any force should be?

On the question of police pensions, the whole trend of policy of this Government and the last has been to recognise the rights of members of pension schemes. Members of a scheme have an entitlement to a pension and the amount of the pension is built up over their working lives.

I do not defend policemen who are found guilty of serious disciplinary offences. I do question whether cutting a policeman's pension by up to 75 per cent can be justified as the penalty.

Yours faithfully,
NORMAN FOWLER,
House of Commons,
February 12.

From Mr Michael Plumbe

Sir, It is outrageous that Jack Straw should impose ethnic minority quotas on recruitment to the police force. Of all organisations, this is the one where appointment and promotion must be made solely on merit and suitability for the job.

Quotas have been tried in the United States. The results have been "reverse discrimination" against "ethnic majority" candidates, a lowering of standards because often the best man for the job was passed over, and charges that the mix of different races was unfair to a particular one.

How does Straw propose to define a member of an ethnic minority? Would someone of "mixed race" count as half a person in his 7 per cent?

Straw is himself being racist, in the worst possible way, by promoting one set of groups as against another.

Yours lively,
MICHAEL PLUMBE
(Chairman, Executive Committee,
Society for Individual Freedom,
104 Drive Mansions, SW6 5JH,
February 10.

From Mr Keith Vaz, MP for Leicester East (Labour)

Sir, Jack Straw is to be congratulated on his latest initiatives in the fight against racism in the police force. However, what is needed is not just for black and Asian people to be brought into the police, but for them to rise to the highest ranks. Only when we see a number of black or Asian chief constables in place will we know that the fight against racism is almost won.

Yours sincerely,
KEITH VAZ,
House of Commons,
February 10.

Medical negligence

From Ms Tracey Brown

Sir, Mr Nigel Harris (letter, February 3) may perceive a fall in standards in orthopaedic cases, but this does not make a convincing explanation of the rising willingness to initiate claims for medical negligence. I doubt there is a fall in standards in obstetrics, where claims and compensation awards are also increasing.

The machinery put in place since the 1989 government proposals, *Working for Patients*, includes the Patient's Charter, new complaints procedures and better, more widely promoted access to legal advice. At the same time, there does seem to be a greater readiness to claim when treatment is unsuccessful. The reasons why people sue need much more investigation and litigation cannot be dismissed as a simple comment on the standards of treatment.

Where standards are low, fear of litigation is an inadequate means of improving them. Aside from being an arbitrary way to regulate services and compensate injury, litigation can lead to defensive practice and, for instance, in the case of independent midwifery, it has led to almost no practice at all.

Yours faithfully,
TRACEY BROWN
(Social researcher),
Department of Sociology,
University of Kent,
Canterbury CT2 7NS.
t.brown@uk.ac.uk
February 3.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Elgin Marbles in world context

From the Editor of Current Archaeology

Sir, Recently I met a young Guatemalan lawyer (and keen archaeologist) who was on his first visit to England. He had been to the British Museum, and was amazed. Here, for the first time, he had seen a world museum and had been able to get an overall view of world cultures: having seen the Elgin Marbles (letter, February 13) and so many other world antiquities all at the same time, he could begin to put the Maya antiquities from Guatemala into their proper context.

It simply does not make sense for every country only to possess the antiquities of that country's past. What is the point of having Greek antiquities only in Greece, Egyptian antiquities only in Egypt, and Chinese objects only in China? It is not better that everyone should be encouraged to learn about other countries' pasts, to see how their own country fits in? We have seen only too clearly in this century where obsessive nationalism leads.

Professor Anthony Snodgrass and his co-authors are firing in precisely the wrong direction. It is the Greek Government that they should be addressing, urging a change in its laws to allow the reasonable export of at least a proportion of all antiquities excavated.

Only in this way will those in Guatemala be able to acquire some Greek antiquities and be able to understand their own Mayan antiquities, and to enable the Greeks to learn something about the Maya.

We need to have more dispersion of antiquities — not less.

Yours sincerely,
ANDREW SELKIRK
Editor,
Current Archaeology,
9 Nassington Road, NW3 2TX,
February 15.

Case for Longbridge

From Mr Richard Burden, MP for Birmingham Northfield (Labour)

Sir, The article by William Rees-Mogg, "Rover is going nowhere" (February 8), makes a number of important points about over-capacity in the car industry. There is a strong global challenge that must be met. But he is wrong to write off Longbridge's role in that process.

There are productivity issues to address, but Lord Rees-Mogg takes no account of the ground-breaking agreement struck late last year between the trade unions and BMW management, providing for radical changes in working practices and flexible working.

These changes were agreed in return for the investment by BMW to make Longbridge a world-class factory with a new model range. BMW

Isles for sale

From Mr Uisdean Michie

Sir, Andrew Eames's interesting article on the sale of three Scottish islands ("Fancy a Hebridean isle?", Homes, February 3) concluded with an erroneous speculation that the sale could stop the local families visiting where their parents once lived.

Outside ownership, whether by foreigners, expatriates, or Scottish or other British residents, could not legally prevent visits to the islands, except named exclusion for a specific offence — as generally applies to access to other Scottish Highland estates. There is not yet an official "right to roam" but there is no "right to general exclusion" in Scotland, where there previously was general access to "common" land.

Organ removal

From Dr Alexander Fernandez

Sir, I have much sympathy with the families of children who were operated on at the Bristol Royal Infirmary and who have learned that organs were removed without the knowledge and consent of the parents (report, February 11).

Our second child was born with a very abnormal heart at a time when corrective surgery was not available. We had a very worrying three months, caring for him at home and watching him die.

We were not told if his heart or other organs were retained for further study. We hope that they were, and that as a consequence other children will have benefited from the study and knowledge derived from them.

Heart surgery has made great strides since then. As a young doctor the availability of specimens was of great importance to me, enabling me, I hope, to have become a better doctor.

Yours faithfully,
ALEXANDER FERNANDEZ,
Sea Thrift,
Lyne Regis, Dorset DT7 3EY,
February 11.

Letters to the Editor for publication should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

From Mr Philip Mottram

Sir, It is sad to see eminent classicists urging the departure from these shores of the finest relics of the classical world. Even today thousands are inspired by visiting these marbles, so wonderfully presented, which have always received a stewardship in accordance with the best practices of the day.

Their return would surely open a Pandora's box in every major museum in the European Union. Every country would then be claiming whatever had originated within its borders.

The glory of the marbles' current setting is its proximity to collections covering the whole of classical and Near Eastern culture. Their context and influences can be seen much better in London than in the single-theme museum suggested in Athens. But their influence has grown so greatly beyond Greece that it is hard to think of a better setting, which will be improved further in the coming years. They are now part of the European culture.

Yours faithfully,
PHILIP J. MOTTRAM,
15 Freewaters Close, Ickleford,
Hertfordshire SG5 3JQ,
February 15.

From Sir Hugh Leggett

Sir, It is crucial to understand that the Elgin Marbles are legally the property of the trustees of the British Museum, who own them on behalf of the nation.

They cannot be disposed of without Parliament repealing the British Museum Act, with all the consequences that this might entail for our main museums and galleries.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH LEGGETT,
Flat 1, 10 Bury Street,
St James's SW1Y 6AA,
February 13.

has already committed itself to build the new Mini at Longbridge. For BMW itself to remain globally competitive going into the next century, though, it also needs to produce a new high-volume, small-to-medium range, front-wheel-drive car. It would make sound business sense to do this at Longbridge — a site with considerable expertise in this field.

But the sums are huge, and alternative sites could be promoted not only outside Britain but outside the EU. That is why Government must also back the investment at Longbridge. Fifty thousand jobs and the livelihood of entire communities in my constituency and surrounding areas depend on Longbridge. It deserves the support of all of us and success into the new century.

Yours,
RICHARD BURDEN,
House of Commons,
February 15.

Additionally, the Barra families who are selling the islands are described as crofters, a term which previously implied a form of secure tenancy. Sale of land, even by crofting owners, does not extinguish crofting rights, especially to the commonly shared land such as sheep-grazing areas. Ownership of land in the active crofting areas confers only limited powers to treat the land as an exclusive personal possession.

Access to the islands can continue to be enjoyed by the local people — limited only by the physical inaccessibility of these southernmost of the Western Isles (Eilean nan Iar).

Yours sincerely,
UISDEAN MACLEOD MICHIE,
21 Dunster Road,
West Bridgford, NG2 6JF,
February 4.

Pocket Pevsners?

From Mr Graeme Woolaston

Sir, I am delighted to learn from "Diary and Letters" (Books, February 11) that Nikolaus Pevsner's wonderful guides to English architecture are being put online, so enabling anyone with a laptop, a modem, and a mobile phone to gain instant access to information about any country church or building they happen to be visiting.

Nonetheless, the equipment involved is a tad cumbersome. Couldn't technology come up with a more portable means of conveying the information, which might even fit into one's pocket?

Yours faithfully,
GRAEME WOOLASTON,
10 Uist Crescent,
Stepps, Glasgow G33 6BG,
February 11.

Road manners

From Mr Edwin C. Carter

Sir, Vicki Butler-Henderson has advised her readers to practise skidding round corners and not to bother stopping at junctions ("The Fast Lady", Go, January 16, February 6): these would seem contradictory to her suggestion that "lessons in sympathy for other road users" be included in driving tests.

Yours faithfully,
EDWIN C. CARTER,
Jesus College, Cambridge CB5 8BL,
ecc25@hermes.cam.ac.uk

International debt for G7 agenda

From the Archbishop of Westminster

Sir, On February 20 the Chancellor will attend a G7 finance ministers' meeting in Bonn to prepare for the next summit of leaders of the world's richest countries in Cologne in June.

The ministers must ensure that international debt is put high on the summit agenda. In recent years, a growing international consensus has led to a new initiative to help the world's poorest countries saddled with unsustainable debt burdens. But so far it has delivered far too little, too late.

No one wants to see debt relief squandered on arms or dissipated through corruption, instead of helping the poorest people. But some highly indebted poor countries would be willing and able to spend the money saved on properly managed poverty alleviation and development programmes. They should be given far more generous debt relief now.

Taking decisive action to tackle debt by the jubilee year 2000 has fired the imaginations of ordinary people across the world. They know that with sufficient political will a yoke can be lifted from the necks of many of the world's poorest people as we cross the threshold of a new millennium.

The politicians must not fail them. If they seize the moment at the G7 summit by providing more resources and linking debt relief with poverty reduction goals, they will have taken a vital step towards the agreed OECD target of halving the proportion of the world's population living in absolute poverty by 2015. And they will have given us all another important reason to celebrate the millennium.

Yours faithfully,
BASIL HUMBLE,
Archbishop's House,
Westminster, SW1P 1JQ,
February 12.

Queen's governess

From Mr K. C. E. Ellison Davis

Sir, Although Queen Victoria had every reason to be grateful to Louise Lehzen, it was her uncle, George IV, who in 1827 created that remarkable daughter of a Lutheran clergyman a (Hanoverian) baroness (report, February 6). The gentleman behind the conference was none other than her later bitter adversary Sir John Conroy, who felt that it would lessen the criticism expressed in some quarters that a mere Fräulein Lehzen was too lowly in rank to occupy the position of governess to the Princess.

Royalty has often shown itself less than willing to acknowledge its indebtedness to its servants. But on hearing of Baroness Lehzen's death, Queen Victoria did concede that she "owed her much". A. C. Benson and Viscount Esher, editors of *The Letters of Queen Victoria 1837-1861* (1907), observed that the Baroness had had "a large share in forming the Queen's character".

A more recent writer, Lady Longford, in her impressive (1964) biography of the Queen Empress, went even further, commenting that the Baroness had "handed over to the nation a potentially great queen".

Yours sincerely,
KENNETH ELLISON DAVIS,
Brahm's Straat 2,
1077 HG Amsterdam,
February 8.

From Miss Joanna Richardson

Sir, Baroness Lehzen was in fact the governess, not the "nanny", of the future Queen Victoria; and the photograph of "a young Queen Victoria with her beloved nanny" is a photograph of the Queen herself, in her childhood, with a young member of her family.

Yours faithfully,
JOANNA RICHARDSON,
55 Flask Walk, NW3 1EY,
February 7.

Death of Amy Johnson

From the Commodore of the Air Transport Auxiliary Association

Sir, Air Transport Auxiliary pilots did not fly with radio, so Amy Johnson could not have answered any "request made by radio for the colours of the day" (report, February 6).

Yours faithfully,
DIANA BARNATO WALKER,
Commodore,
Air Transport Auxiliary Association,
Horne Grange,
Horne, Surrey RH6 9LA,
February 8.

Early bird

From Mr Dean Bailey

Sir, At dawn this morning I observed a well-dressed gentleman examining the contents of the public litter-hins on the seafloor. His strange behaviour was explained when he produced a pair of nail scissors from his waistcoat pocket and began cutting out the Books for Schools tokens from discarded crisp packets.

When I commended him on his initiative, he explained to me that if he began his search any later someone had usually been there before him.

Yours faithfully,
DEAN BAILEY,
6 Greenfield Court, West Hill Road,
Ryde, Isle of Wight PO33 1NA,
February 10.



BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY FEBRUARY 16 1999

Mobile phone operator lines up German rival

Orange aims for E-Plus deal

By CHRIS AYRES

ORANGE, Britain's third-largest mobile phone company, is understood to be in talks with E-Plus, its German rival, which could lead to a multibillion-pound alliance between the two companies. The deal could involve Orange bidding for a controlling stake in E-Plus, which is currently thought to be worth up to £15 billion. Alternatively, Orange could become a "virtual network operator" in Germany by bulk-purchasing several billion minutes of air time

from E-Plus and re-selling them under its own brand. Sources close to Orange say the company is prepared to go to the market to raise cash to help to fund any potential deal. Talks between Orange and E-Plus come as the German mobile phone company faces the possible loss of two large shareholders - Vodafone and Bell South. Vodafone needs to sell its 17.5 per cent stake in the company to help it to gain regulatory clearance for its £67 billion merger with AirTouch of the US. If the merger goes ahead, the combined company

will instead focus on AirTouch's stake in the more successful German mobile phone operator, Mannesmann. Meanwhile, it is thought that Bell South is also considering selling its 22.5 per cent stake in E-Plus. It is understood that the US operator has failed to come to an agreement with Otelo, E-Plus's controlling shareholder, which would have seen the companies work together more closely. Otelo is owned by Veba and RWE, the diversified German utilities. Analysts believe that Otelo is frustrated with the disappointing

performance of E-Plus and would welcome a new partner. However, it has yet to agree to Orange buying a controlling stake in the company. If such a deal did go ahead, E-Plus would be rebranded Orange, and the British company would parachute in new management. The deal would give Orange an estimated two million customers in Germany. The talks between Orange and E-Plus are part of a wider offensive to be launched on the European market by Orange, partly inspired by the merger of AirTouch and Vodafone. If

Orange's negotiations with E-Plus fail, the company is understood to be considering a similar deal with Bouygues, the French mobile phone group. Again, the company would try to buy a controlling stake in Bouygues - the 20 per cent stake owned by Britain's Cable & Wireless is currently up for sale - or it could bulk-buy air time from the company to become a "virtual network operator". Although it is thought that Orange would like to control at least one other network in Europe, the company has previously

said that it expects its international expansion strategy to be heavily based on operating so-called virtual networks. Alexander Gunz, a telecoms analyst at ABN Amro, the investment bank, said: "The German market would offer a lot of potential to Orange, given the size of the country and its relatively low market penetration. The Vodafone/AirTouch deal has also sped up mobile phones deals, with companies such as Orange keen to get a presence outside their home markets."

Both E-Plus and Orange were launched in 1994, and both were late entrants to their respective markets. However, while Orange went on to establish a highly successful brand E-Plus struggled to compete with its larger rivals. Orange, headed by Hans Snook, is also preparing to bid for a "third generation" mobile phone licence in the UK, which would see the company introduce services such as video conferencing. The auction is expected to take place early next year.

Tempus, page 28

British Biotech cancer drug blow

By PAUL DURMAN

THE British Biotech cancer drug once seen as a potential blockbuster has failed to produce the desired results in the first completed human trials, raising serious doubts about the future development of the compound.

The potential of marimastat as a treatment for a wide range of cancers briefly gave British Biotech a stock market value of £2 billion. Yesterday its shares fell 17 per cent to a new low of 21p, valuing the company at about just £140 million. It has also emerged that the British Medical Association is backing Andy Millar, sacked last year as British Biotech's director of clinical trials, in his compensation battle. His action in warning a large shareholder of poor trial results and the company's over-optimism precipitated a crisis that led to the departure of the chief executive and a fundamental change of strategy.

The BMA has said it will bear tens of thousands of pounds of Dr Millar's legal costs because it believes his case raises "issues of fundamental importance to the medical profession".

Results of a phase III study of marimastat in pancreatic cancer largely bear out Dr Millar's warnings. None of three different doses proved better than Gemzar, the existing standard therapy, although a secondary analysis suggests that the highest 25mg dose might be as good. Peder Jensen, development director, rejected a suggestion that British Biotech's chances of success could have been improved had it listened to Dr Millar. He said Dr Millar had insufficient information to back his judgement, adding: "It just happened that he may have been right in some of the things he predicted at that time."

British Biotech's third-quarter results showed losses for the year so far cut by 20 per cent to £24.5 million, with £100 million of cash on its books.

The Times is also bearing part of Dr Millar's legal costs, under the terms of an affidavit he gave the paper when it was contesting an injunction.

Commentary, page 27



Frankfurt, the Euro-City, as it might look after completion of the "Frankfurt 2000" high-rise development plan aimed at luring international banks there

Frankfurt builds challenge to London

By SIGRID AUFTERBECK AND CARL MORTSHED

FRANKFURT will next month launch a property challenge to London's pre-eminent position as the financial centre of Europe. Construction work will start on another big office complex in Frankfurt, forming part of a ten-year masterplan to build 20 skyscrapers to lure the world's financial powerhouses to the German city.

Work is due to start on Sky-light, a 355,000 sq ft complex, designed by Richard Rogers, with trading floors designed to attract investment banks. Another development near by, Die Welle, will provide 377,000 sq ft, also with trading floors to satisfy Frankfurt's ambition to corner more of the lucrative securities industry. The two developments form part of "Frankfurt 2000", a plan to create 60.5 million sq ft

of new office space over the next decade. Martin Wenz, the city's chief planner, said: "Frankfurt 2000 is our invitation to the world. As Frankfurt has gained momentum by the locating of the European Central Bank, we are prepared to take the role of the Euro-City." Frankfurt's plans will undoubtedly impinge on the expansion plans for London's Canary Wharf. Jonathan Adams, of DTZ Debenham Thorpe,

reckons that Frankfurt is now a genuine threat. "Banks that used to turn down offers from Frankfurt are now examining them thoroughly," he said. Frankfurt property brokers are pushing hard to sell their city, offering discounts of up to 20 per cent off headline rents. Robert Menke, of Jones Lang Wood in Frankfurt, says he has been approached by UK institutions seeking space. Frankfurt is wooing international banks, and Merrill Lynch and Morgan Stanley have signed deals to increase their occupancy there. Incentives include fitting-out costs and rent-free periods. Herr Menke expects a second wave of international banks to come there. "There is a demand for trading space in Frankfurt, which will be met during the next years," he said.

Commentary, page 27

Hazlewood and Booker to shed 900 jobs

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

NEARLY 900 jobs were lost in the British food industry yesterday as Booker announced the closure of a distribution centre in Northampton and Hazlewood Foods said it is to shut down a factory in Cambridgeshire.

Booker is cutting 612 jobs in total. More than 500 will come from the closure of its Northampton distribution centre and call centre. Jobs will also go at its Hatfield, Haydock and Bristol operations. The cuts arise from the sale by Booker of the goodwill and some assets of Booker Wholesale Foods to Palmer & Harvey McLane, a privately owned distribution company, for £4.4 million.

Although Palmer & Harvey McLane, which is based in Hove, East Sussex, and which had turnover of £2.4 billion last year, is acquiring the business, it does not need all of the

existing warehouse space, vehicles or staff.

The redundancies and other associated costs will result in a £23 million exceptional loss this year for Booker.

Stuart Rose, chief executive of Booker, said that the sale "dies up" the core cash-and-carry business. Efforts are still being made to sell Booker's food service business, its fish farming and its poultry divisions. Refinancing talks with Booker's banks are continuing and are thought unlikely to conclude before Easter. Its shares fell 7½p to 64½p.

Hazlewood Foods is axing 250 jobs through the closure of its loss-making sliced cooked meats and delicatessen factory at Wisbech in Cambridgeshire. The closure will lead to an exceptional charge of £20 million. Its shares closed 3½p higher at 118½p.

US ruling for Griffin traders

By JASON NISSE

TRADERS on Liffe, who lost thousands of pounds when a rogue trader brought the collapse of Griffin Trading at Christmas, will be able to recover 80 per cent of their losses after a US ruling.

Many of the traders were threatened with ruin when John Griffin, a 27-year-old dealer, lost £6.2 million and forced Griffin into liquidation. They had been told they might see two fifths of the money they had tied up with Griffin, a clearing house based in London and Chicago, when it collapsed.

However, Finbarr O'Connell and Mike Jervis of Grant Thornton, the provisional liquidators of Griffin, have established that under US law the traders are preferential creditors.

Yesterday they wrote to Griffin's clients saying that, thanks to this ruling, the traders should receive up to 80 per cent of their money back.

Warburg Pincus arm falls to Credit Suisse

FROM ANDREW BUTCHER IN NEW YORK

CREDIT SUISSE GROUP, Europe's fourth-largest bank, yesterday made its biggest move yet into the US fund management market with the \$650 million (£400 million) purchase of Warburg Pincus Asset Management.

The bank, Switzerland's second-largest financial services group is taking a 19.9 per cent stake in the Wall Street partnership Warburg Pincus but is buying the firm's asset management business outright. The deal comes after a year of the Swiss trying to persuade Warburg Pincus to sell.

The deal will see the Warburg Pincus arm merged into Credit Suisse Asset Management. With Warburg Pincus's £14 billion of assets under management, Credit Suisse's total assets under management will total £150 billion.

Lukas Muhlemann, the chief executive of Credit Suisse,

said Warburg Pincus's expertise in the US market, especially in the lucrative high-net-worth sector of the mutual fund industry, would be crucial to Credit Suisse's growth in the US. Mr Muhlemann said: "It is a critical strategic move to complete our product capability, expand our US presence and better address client needs. The result will be greater service to clients, opportunity for employees and value for shareholders."

Warburg Pincus owes its origins to the legendary Eric Warburg, who escaped Nazi Germany in the 1930s and made his fortune on Wall Street. It has made its name in the UK as an investor in several high-profile businesses including Channel 5, and the Jordan Formula One motor racing team, as well as John Charcol, the mortgage broker.

FSA to delay scathing unit trust report

By SUSAN EMMETT

THE publication of an independent report condemning unit trusts for being over-priced and offering poor value has been delayed after an outcry from the fund management industry.

The study, written by an American economist working for the Financial Services Authority, the City watchdog, said investors were losing billions of pounds a year because of charges. Kevin James, who started his research while working for the Securities and Exchange Commission, the senior US financial regulator, argues that investors have to put in £1.55 to get the full market return for £1. The study, however, was criticised by the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds (Auitf) as "just simply wrong". Philip Warland, director-general of Auitf, said: "We told the FSA that it was flawed and that it was likely to damage their reputation. We did not tell them not to publish."

The report was to be published by the Centre for the Study of Financial Innovation, an independent think-tank. Andrew Hilton, director of the CSFI said: "I very much hope that if the FSA doesn't let us publish this report they will support the idea of a debate."

An FSA official said that the paper was a draft and that as yet there had been no decision on whether or not to publish it.

Mr James aired his ideas last night at the London School of Economics. However, he said he could not comment on the status of the report at this stage.

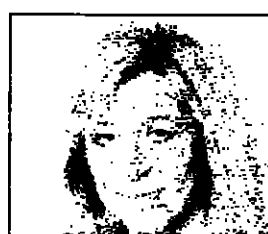
The dispute comes only weeks before the launch of individual savings accounts (Isas), which will replace Peps and Tassas in April. It also comes at a time when the Government is trying to encourage more people to save and highlight best-buy funds by using the quality-assurance Catmark. To qualify for a Catmark, funds must not levy annual charges of more than 1 per cent. On average, funds charge 1.5 per cent a year with 5 per cent in initial fees.

Mr James's paper will stake up the debate over the performance of managed funds just as fund managers gear up for the final round of Peps sales. Managed funds have been criticised by several surveys that suggest investors may be better off in tracker funds.

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Rosemary Righter says that a tale of two Germanys is reaching conclusion page 29

STOCK MARKET	
FTSE 100	6022.2 (+72.5)
Yield	2.68%
FTSE All Share	2781.57 (+26.16)
Nasdaq	14554.72 (+81.03)
New York:	
Dow Jones	Closed
S&P Composite	Closed

US RATE	
Federal Funds	Closed (4 1/4%)
Long bond	Closed (5 3/4%)
Yield	

LONDON MONEY	
3-mth interbank	5 1/4% (5 1/4%)
6-mth interbank	5 1/2% (5 1/2%)
12-mth interbank	5 3/4% (5 3/4%)
3-mth bill	117.25 (117.25)

STERLING	
New York:	
\$	Closed (1.6338)
£	Closed (0.6124)
¥	1.4284 (1.4284)
SFr	2.3115 (2.3115)
Yen	186.12 (186.24)
€ index	100.5 (100.2)

DOLLAR	
London:	
\$	Closed (1.1305)
£	Closed (0.8840)
¥	114.15 (114.15)
€ index	105.5 (105.5)

NORTH SEA OIL	
Brent 15-day (Apr.)	\$10.55 (\$10.55)

GOLD	
London close	\$289.50 (\$289.45)
Exchange rates	Page 25

Hotel plan for In and Out Club

By DOMINIC WALSH

THE former In and Out club on London's Piccadilly could become a luxury hotel under an ambitious £150 million scheme put forward by Peter Lukas, the property developer.

Mr Lukas, through his company, Duke of Saxony Enterprises, has submitted plans for a site covering not only the In and Out Club but also the adjoining Iceni nightclub, which he already owns, and the Green Park Hotel.

Subject to planning consent, he is proposing to buy the entire site, turning it into a 246-room hotel with 11 residential units and several shops. The Grade I-listed club is being sold by its secretive Kuwaiti owners, who are asking £50 million, while the Green Park Hotel is up for grabs at about £35 million.

Mr Lukas, whose previous hotel developments include the former Pearl Assurance building in High Holborn, said he was confident of securing the necessary funding.

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Royal Ordnance workers face 5% earnings cut, says union

David Bristow has resigned from the board of Christian Salvesen, the logistics group. Mr Bristow, 48, is leaving immediately but the company would not say whether he will receive compensation. Last year he was paid £121,000 and had a two-year service contract. Mr Bristow, who the company said was leaving for "personal reasons", ran the food and consumer logistics division. He is replaced by Colin Miles.

Shares in Royalblue yesterday rose 2½p to 450p. A total dividend of 3p, up from 2.25p will be paid on April 1.

John Hamer left with Andy

business finance director, who says

Royalblue sales up 43 per cen

Marshall's Finance will change its name to Prebo Group after the merger. It will have more than 1,500 brokers

ASSOCIATED British Ports Holdings, yesterday announced the appointment of Bo Lerenius to the new role of group chief executive, from the spring. He will absorb much of the remit of Andrew Smith, managing director of ABP's port operations, who will consequently leave the company. Mr Lerenius, 52, is vice-chairman of Sienia Line, the Swedish shipping group. The company said that its preliminary results, out next week, would be in line with expectations.

Last year, the money broking arm of Intercapital merged with Exco in a £90 million deal.



Sueden Kr.	13.68	12.58
Schweizland Fr... ..	2.471	2.253
Turkey Lira.....	576731	532297
USA \$	1.738	1.595

Rates for small denomination banknotes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to traveller's cheques. Rates as

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Alan D Proud
Department of Trade and Industry

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STOCK MARKET

FRASER NELSON

Havelock joins wonder stocks with 72% surge

HAVELOCK EUROPA became the latest in the new breed of London wonder stocks yesterday as its shares surged 72 per cent for apparently no reason.

Puzzled City dealers were left talking about "private client madness" as the small Scottish shopfitter became the best performer in London.

Its rise was traced back to the directors' share purchases two weeks ago, which were flagged by this Sunday's press. This, dealers said, seemed to trigger a wave of heavy buying by private investors — hungry for another small company to perform a rally such as that staged by One-Line, up 1,400 per cent in the past five weeks.

One dealer said: "Weekend tips always move stocks on a Monday, but never by 70 per cent. Normally, we'd hear some takeover rumour but there's been nothing. Private clients have been on the phone all day buying the shares: it's just madness. The shares rose 20p to 69p."

Hew Balfour, chief executive, said: "Eighty per cent of nothing is not a huge sum. I can think of no other reason than the reaction to the weekend press reports. I think it's truly astonishing."

Conspiracy theorists point to Hermes, the powerful fund manager that now has a 7.3 per cent stake in Havelock.

Although Hermes owns shares in London's 900 largest companies (Havelock ranks 1,574th), it chooses to have disclosed stakes in only 72 — and dealers often see these unfortunate few as takeover targets.

In the absence of Wall Street, which was closed for Presidents Day, there was not much to direct London shares yesterday with few companies reporting. The FTSE 100 managed a cautious 72.5-point rise, closing back above the 6,000 mark at 6023.2.

The tobacco sector was cheered by government assurance that the NHS is legally forbidden from suing cigarette makers. This helped BAT, up 18p to 596p, and Gallaher, 8p up at 423p.

Coli Telecom was 57p higher at £11.29, rebounding on its losses of last week. Boots was the sharpest blue-chip faller, 33p cheaper at 894p amid broker downgrades.

Most of the action was in smaller company sector.



Hew Balfour, chief executive of Havelock Europa, could offer little explanation for the heavy buying of the shares

where Havelock's rise was followed by 22 other companies whose shares closed more than 10 per cent up.

Austin Reed rose 14p to 113p amid rumours of takeover bids — from everyone in its management to Arcadia and Sharni Ahmed.

Talk in some dealing rooms is that a venture capitalist is willing and will offer 150p a share in cash if a bid emerges below this level.

Mr Ahmed, the retail entrepreneur behind Joe Browns, is now wheeled out as the likely bidder for any troubled retail company — most recently House of Fraser, 14p better at 89p.

He is now being touted as another potential bidder for Laura Ashley, up 2p to 20p amid hopes that Hobbis, the private shoe retailer, will do the honours and take it private.

The Rack enjoyed another excellent day, up 8p to 36p, amid talk that Sock Shop has renewed its interest in the niche retailer.

Dealers have been stocking up on shares of Ferguson International, the paper and packaging company attempting to split itself up. Word is that, when the company is finished, it will pay out a generous special dividend that makes the shares worth 80p each. They jumped 5p better to 49p yesterday.

British Biotech got off relatively lightly after saying its main cancer drug hope had failed interim tests.

The shares lost 17 per cent to 21p. Dealers who remember it sliding up to the FTSE 100 three years ago are reluctant to believe there is nothing left in the company. Some bear raiders, however, are taking a different view and one is said to have taken a position at 11p a share.

On-Line, the computer games company that has become the most volatile stock in London, was up another 23p cent at 19p as Clement Chambers, its marketing director, said he is putting £865,000 of the proceeds of his recent share disposals into new shares.

If directors' dealings now command such attention in the market, then expect a sharp drop in shares of Mike Group. It has had a fantastic post-October recovery, the shares adding 80 per cent. David Telling, chairman, thinks this is a good time to take profits and has sold £326,000 of shares at 163p apiece. The shares firmed 3p to 167p.

Malcolm Jessop, a non-executive director of JIVE Telecom, splashed out £11,000 on shares of the company at 158p apiece. They added 5p to 154p yesterday.

Rage Software agreed its long-awaited deal with Microsoft, on terms far less dramatic than some of its fans had hoped for. Its shares were 3p better at 154p, as 13.7 million change hands.

CGI-EDGED: Gills closed down slightly after Friday's US treasury losses, but were supported by hopes of low UK inflation and government debt figures due on Tuesday.

Treasury 10 per cent 2001 was £0.10 lighter at £109.77 and Treasury 6 per cent 2028 was £1.04 lower at £125.76.

NEW YORK: Wall Street was closed for Presidents Day.

THE FTSE 100 has long been used as a bellwether for London shares, but does it give an accurate picture of the market?

Over the past few years, mega-mergers have created huge companies such as BP Amoco, Lloyds TSB and SmithKline Beecham. As the FTSE 100 is a weighted index, the ten largest stocks dictate 38 per cent of its movement. So when the FTSE is at record highs, it is this hard work of the top few covering up for laggards in the rest of the index.

The graph shows the ten largest stocks outperforming the rest of the FTSE 100 by 13 per cent.

But they only became the top ten by dint of their good performance.

Investors confining themselves to last February's top ten would have missed out on the 108 per cent rise in Vodafone and an 82 per cent rise in British Telecom.

Still, the big guns have been top of fund managers' shopping list in the recent share upturn. Their outperformance should continue.

PLAYING FTSE (Data rebased to 100)

Rest of the FTSE 100

FTSE 100: 10 largest stocks

Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb

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MAJOR INDICES

New York: Dow Jones 500 Composite Closed

Tokyo: Nikkei Average 14054.72 (+81.03)

Hong Kong: Hang Seng 9402.39 (-23.05)

Amsterdam: AEX Index 503.31 (-0.02)

Sydney: All Ordinaries 2877.8 (-1.17)

Frankfurt: DAX 4975.55 (-0.19)

Stockholm: OMX 1361.15 (+4.30)

Brussels: CAC 40 3468.03 (+18.77)

Paris: CAC 40 3468.03 (+18.77)

Zurich: SMI 3000.00 (+0.00)

London: FTSE 100 6023.2 (+72.5)

FTSE 250 3077.2 (+0.9)

FTSE 100: 10 largest stocks 2754.60 (+24.51)

FTSE All-Share 2761.57 (+26.18)

FTSE Real Estate 2815.22 (+21.36)

FTSE Food & Drink 154.94 (+0.02)

FTSE Govt Secs 114.19 (-0.42)

Burgundy 79002

US: S&P 500 1427.74 (+0.06)

Euro: EURO 100 100.00 (-0.002)

Bank of England official rate (p) 5.00

184.4 Dec (2.8%) Jan 1997 - 100

162.4 Dec (2.6%) Jan 1997 - 100

RECENT ISSUES

ARM VCT 100

Abbey Hall Dublin Inv 88

Accom Income Fund 101.1

BFS Overseas Inc & Gwth Cap 98

BFS Overseas Inc & Gwth Inv 120

Cassius Dev VCT 100

Capital Properties 100

Jupiter Euro Zero Dr Pl 105.5

Jupiter Enhanced Inc 98

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Stock Close Chng Chng%

Havelock Europa +29 +71.6

Boots +14 +14.6

Friendship Hotels +13 +13.0

Albright & Wilson +10 +10.0

Generali Group +8 +8.0

Atlantic Telecom +11 +11.3

Ultra Elect +30 +30.0

Supermarket VR +14 +14.0

Land Rover +10 +10.0

Southwest +31 +31.0

Helphire Gp +70 +70.0

West Humber +10 +10.0

COLT Telecom +129 +129.0

Commo +25 +25.0

Barclays +74 +74.0

Repton +22 +22.0

Abbey +10 +10.0

WPP +9 +9.0

FALLS:

Stock Close Chng Chng%

Graham House -21 -23.5

Haden Macdon -39 -28.5

Scania Agency -40 -10.0

Generali Group -10 -10.0

Albright & Wilson -8 -8.0

Cohen (A) -105 -8.6

Burton -35 -8.1

Imperial -58 -5.8

Jarvis -330 -21.6

Plaxton -751 -32.5

Low & Bloor -430 -14.2

Assoc Bt Ports -265 -13.4

Capital Radio -726 -4.4

4th Paragon -10 -1.0

Berkley Gp -568 -22.3

Reedley -700 -26.3

EMERGENCY

Future still bright

GERMANY'S third-largest mobile phone operator, E-Plus, is looking vulnerable with the "for sale" sign over 40 per cent of its shares.

Orange is in pole position to pounce.

The firms enjoy similar histories, but very different fortunes. Both companies launched in spring 1994, and both were late entrants to their respective markets. However, where Orange has prospered, E-Plus has disappointed.

and the German company has only just started to turn itself around.

Orange may not be able to buy control. One-to-one joint venture between two German utilities, Veba and RWE — owns 60 per cent.

But One-to should welcome the arrival of a successful operating partner. It would be better if Orange could get control of the company's brand, management, and its two million or so customers. But even as a minority it could set

up a "virtual network" in Germany by bulk-buying air-time from E-Plus, and re-selling it under its own brand. A similar deal is likely to happen in France, where Orange works closely with Bouygues.

Whichever, the penetration of the mobile phone in Germany is relatively low, giving attractive long-term growth prospects. E-Plus also presents Orange with an entry into the truly global league.

It will cost Orange a lot of money. A 51 per cent stake in E-Plus could cost up to £7.5 billion, the company also needs to find finance for the next generation of mobile-phone licences in this country.

The numbers start to look frightening. But after some retrenchment since last summer Orange shares are looking attractive again at 845p. Buy.

Greenalls

IT IS hard to see what will put the fire back into the Greenalls share price if it is not bid for. The shares have underperformed appallingly for most of the past five years.

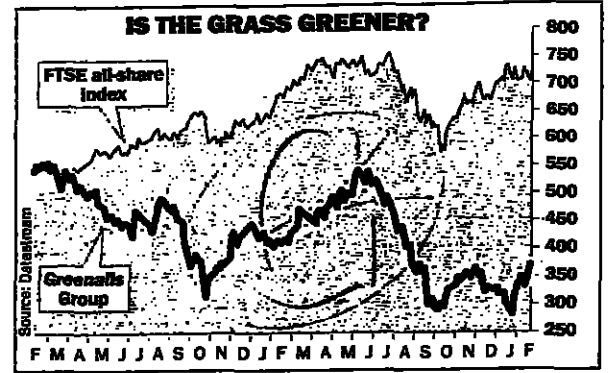
Best of all, Greenalls is cheap. Prior to the current bid talk, the shares languished at eight times estimated 1998 earnings. Even with the 11 per cent jump yesterday the

and the roadside accommodation lodges are decent enough, too. In addition, the sale of tenanted pubs to Nomura for £370 million last November was well-received.

Best of all, Greenalls is cheap. Prior to the current bid talk, the shares languished at eight times estimated 1998 earnings. Even with the 11 per cent jump yesterday the

shares trade at a 50 per cent discount to peers. Whitbread is keeping mum, but it is easy to imagine executive salivation at the prospect of being able to tie up a deal like this.

The operations fit well and at £1.2 billion it would be enough to satisfy Whitbread shareholders that it is achieving. Buy Greenalls for the bid. Keep Whitbread as a hold.



Mersey Docks

THERE IS something undeniably 1970s about the Mersey Docks & Harbour Company. The very name reeks of beer and sandwiches and the long-running labour dispute.

Now settled, only reinforces the prejudices.

Yesterday's annual results from Mersey showed that while the heyday of Britain ruling the waves is past, and while working stevedores no longer dominate the skyline of the country's portside cities, there is still money to be made in shipping and operating ports.

Last year the company made operating profits of more than £50 million, and in a weakening economic environment that was a creditable 11 per cent ahead of the previous period.

Mersey's shares, however, look rather moored at 51p. They were unchanged yesterday, and apart from spiking up after settlement of the industrial action, have per-

formed disappointingly for most of the past five years.

Mersey is solid enough but investors seem to be less than convinced that there is exciting growth in the business.

There are too many potentially troubling liabilities in branch activities, too.

Mersey shares trade on a prospective p/e of 12. This looks mean given the strength of earnings and the cash-generating abilities but the company will have to be more persuasive about growth if the shares are to perform. They rate an unenthusiastic hold.

Clearly the sale price of BWT cannot be taken as representative of the value of Booker's entirety. But it does underline that Booker's attempts to re-invent itself are proving to be every bit as difficult as the most cynical observers of this company's difficult recent history have imagined. On the market, shares fell to 644p, down from 72p yesterday.

If Booker survives it will find it hard to prosper. Sell.

EDITED BY ROBERT COLE

COMMODITIES

COFFEE: COCOA

ROBUSTA COFFEE

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

CRUDE OILS (Standard FOB)

ECONOMIC VIEW

ROSEMARY RIGTER

Tale of two Germanys reaching a conclusion

Confusion rising as nation shows its impatience with Schröder's squabbling Government

As every mother who has watched her child experiment with plasticine knows, if you take lovely bright primary colours and squidge them up in a ball, the result is brownish sludge. And the most diarrhoeic hue of all is produced by combining the favourite infant colours, red and green.

After four months in office, this nursery metaphor seems to sum up Gerhard Schröder's fumbling red-green coalition. A blurry lump of policies that are neither carefully developed nor collectively backed was not what Germans expected when they voted for his "middle ground". And they certainly did not expect their new Chancellor to compound confusion by acting pig in the middle, not nursery boss.

The voters of Hesse, who deserted the Greens in droves in state elections earlier this month, have already had enough — particularly with the Greens. But for two reasons, the effect of that stinging electoral defeat could be even less coherence than before.

The first is that the children are openly squabbling. Jürgen Trittin, the Green Environment Minister, grumbles that when the Government's agreed policies "have a half-life of just a few hours", it is hard to govern successfully. Herr Schröder retorts that what the coalition needs is "less Trittin" — not surprisingly, as it was uproar over Herr Trittin's economically and environmentally doty blueprint for scrapping nuclear power that forced Herr Schröder to execute his first U-turn, a clumsy and humiliatingly public manoeuvre. But he cannot so easily slap down Oskar Lafontaine, Finance Minister, leader of the Social Democrats (SPD), kingmaker to Herr Schröder and — as the reward he exacted — boss of EU policy. Red Oskar is letting it be known that he is tired of learning his Chancellor's decisions from newspapers. The rivalry between these two is a canker at the Government's heart.

The second reason to think that confusion may deepen is that the loss of Hesse has deprived the Red-Greens of their majority in the Bundesrat, the upper house whose co-operation is needed for most of the reforms Germany needs to revitalise its economy — and indispensable to overhauling the tax system.

When the G7 hold their informal meeting in Bonn this weekend, therefore, it will be guests of a Government that has neither experience nor unity of purpose, nor any strategy likely to stop growth slumping to perhaps 1.3 per cent this year or unemployment



Soft cop, hard cop: Dominique Strauss-Kahn, left, and Oskar Lafontaine often consult

ment rising 50,000 above the depression-level current rate of 10.8 per cent. What Bonn does have is unwelcome: plenty of ill-considered ideas, none of them with a ghost's chance of acceptance in Washington and New York, about how to put the world's leading currencies in a straitjacket.

Does this matter? On the face of it, yes, a lot: inchoate leadership of the European Union's dominant economic power must bode ill for sorting out the European Union's future finances and current absurdities (such as its agricultural policy); for hauling EU economies out of the doldrums; for insulating Central Europe from Russia's deepening crisis; and for avoiding damaging trade rows between the US and Europe and acrimonious transatlantic disputes about how best to navigate turbulent international financial waters.

It is the last two items on this list that the G7 will spend most time on. And both at Davos last month, and in subsequent articles penned by Herr Lafontaine and Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the French Finance Minister whom he consults far more closely than he does Herr Schröder, the lines of an unproductive argument with Washington have been drawn.

The euro seems to have gone

to both men's heads. Not content with demanding EU-wide minimum taxes on savings and corporation taxes and an end to the national veto on economic and social policies, they would like to set rules for the euro-dollar exchange rate. They have also set out plans, in a recent joint article in *Le Monde*, for EU "exchange rate regimes with Asia, Latin America and Eastern and Central Europe". The idea is to "make the spirit of the euro rule everywhere" through policy co-ordination.

Herr Lafontaine wants controls on short-term capital flows, and co-ordinated central bank interventions within agreed exchange-rate target zones. M. Strauss-Kahn, who plays the soft cop in this double act, says that, while target zones might take time to negotiate, now that Europe is a player on equal footing with the US, it is high time Washington paid proper attention to Euro-11 views on financial management. And one of these views is that the eurozone will not tolerate "benign neglect" of the dollar, or of America's soaring trade and current account deficits.

Oh, really? Who are Germany and France, where growth collapsed to near zero in the last three months of 1998, to

sword of Damocles will fall.

Such mercantilist smugness is misplaced. The US is not just a temporary piggybank for foreigners; their money has poured into acquisitions, mergers and manufacturing, attracted by the strengths of the real US economy. Growth there is still likely to be about 2.6 per cent this year, way above the EU average.

If the US deficit continues its sharp rise, so will the risks of either a protectionist backlash, or a depreciation of the dollar against the euro steep enough to kill whatever shoots are poking out of euroland's permafrost. But the best defence against that eventuality is to boost European demand. It is EU surpluses, not American deficits, that are bad for the world economy. But fiscal stimulus will not work miracles without adding tax, employment and regulatory reforms, and a bonfire of investment-distorting subsidies.

This brings me to a second, more contentious answer to the question posed earlier: how much does Schröder's drifting matter? In terms of German growth, it depends which Germany you are looking at — the old Germany with its high wages, rigid employment laws and IG Metall; or the new Germany of deregulated telecommunications, the Neuer Markt exchange for small growth companies, a high-tech investment boom and aggressively restructuring market leaders such as Mannesmann, DaimlerChrysler or Bayer.

With this new Germany, Herr Lafontaine appears out of touch. He sees the 11,500 jobs shed by Deutsche Telekom, but not the 40,000 created last year in the same sector, now that competition is possible. And it is because Red Oskar will not part with his beloved "European social model" that he is pinning all blame for Germany's economic woes on the European Central Bank, the constraints of the Stability Pact and the "unfair" competition he seeks to curb by extending the EU's regulatory powers. His tirades against the ECB will hardly reassure Germans that they were right to abandon the mark for the euro; and they are no substitute for domestic reforms.

Because the shackles that bind Germany are home-made, the war that matters is between Germany's increasingly dynamic business culture and its heavily unionised laggards. At Davos, while the Bundesbank's Hans Tietmeyer droned on about political integration underpinned by a new EU "constitution", a bunch of young EU Turks issued a "Wake up, Europe!" call. The EU, they said, had had 50 years of harmonisation: what it needed was free-market growth.

Herr Schröder shows few signs, so far, of becoming Germany's deregulatory angel. So it may be a blessing in disguise that his Government is weak. That way, there is just a chance that young Turks will yet scale Germany's socialist ramparts, armed with the example of American success.

Barclays's Teutonic eagle faces the threat of extinction



Most financial services aspire to this global branding, but egos get in the way, and you end up with a halfway house — such as BancBoston Robertson Stephens, the uncomfortably named specialist broker. Also, most large organisations are unwilling to trust their entire marketing to an external company, so you often have the in-house marketing people trying to juggle five or

six different campaigns in the marketplace.

The other option is to segment the market, and attack it with different brands. Lloyds TSB is an exponent of this, having retained the Cheltenham & Gloucester name for all its mortgage work. It also toyed with the idea of keeping Lloyds and TSB as separate retail banking brands, operating in different segments, but decided this might cause confusion. So it is going for the single brand. Prudential is trying

this segmented route, branding its banking business Egg, to differentiate it from the Pru's main offering.

Barclays has been caught between two stools. It launched b2, its savings and investment brand, last year to some cynicism. It has also spent many millions on its Barclays Capital brand, which looks quite different from its old BZW brand. Neither b2 nor Barclays Capital sport an eagle in their logos.

JWT has suggested to Barclays that it needs a bright new image across the group. But should that image have an eagle? JWT is sitting on the fence — after all, if the eagle stays, it could be JWT that goes.

Mr O'Neill is unlikely to have an emotional attachment to the eagle. He has lived through a series of bank mergers in the US, where financial services brands seem to have a life expectancy shorter than a goldfish. However, as Bradford & Bingley found when it thought of getting rid of the bowler hats from its logo, it often pays not to be too radical.

David Stuart predicts Barclays might follow the lead of the German Government, which has asked Sir Norman Foster to redesign its eagle, though the Germans are concerned that the result is a little too fat to fly. Expect a less Prussian, more American eagle to emerge from Lombard Street in the near future.

jason.nisse@the-times.co.uk

SPORTS PHOTO

BARCLAYS BANK



Wings clipped: Barclays's symbol is seen as too institutional

big
on little things...

...like attention to detail.

Rowe & Maw

LAWYERS FOR BUSINESS
20 Black Friars Lane, London EC4V 6HD
Telephone: 0171 248 4282

The cable guy

THERE are signs that one of the empire seats at the top of some of our biggest companies may be about to be filled. Shares in Cable & Wireless fell off a cliff in December when Dick Brown quit without warning to run EDS, the huge US computer concern founded by Ross Perot.

Brown, himself an American, resurfaced last week with a \$17 billion deal. Now I am told on good authority that the powers that be at C&W have decided to minimise disruption by making it an internal appoint-

ment rather than bringing in an outsider to turn everything on its head again. (And then, perhaps, be lured away by mega-bucks elsewhere. Brown's departure has left some people rather bitter, I gather.)

So the race is on between Graham Wallace, who runs CWC, the smaller cable company spun off from C&W, and Robert Lervill, C&W's finance director. If, as I expect, the job goes internally, Wallace would be the obvious favourite, having experience in running the company. But I would not write off Lervill yet.

I SEE from the Reuters weekly diary that the Turkey European Roadshow reached London yesterday. There was a presentation at noon — and where else but at Butcher's Hall?

Dirty laundry

IF YOU have a large sum of illicit cash in need of laundering, try building a dam or a road somewhere in the developing world. I have been taking advice on the subject from one of our best authorities on the subject.

Nigel Morris-Cotterill, an occasional visitor to this column, says the easiest way to launder cash today is through an international private finance project. "A lot of the money



that goes into projects like these is syndicated, often through banks from the Indian sub-continent or the Middle East," he says. There is virtually no way of checking where the money comes from.

Morris-Cotterill, who claims that the war against organised crime is already lost in most countries, is awaiting publication of the second edition of his book. How not to be a money launderer.

He says the only people affected by fruitless efforts to crack down on the practice are the general public. For example, there is a duty to report any suspicious to the police, penalty for non-compliance is four years inside.

We are also subject to rigorous identity checks when taking out insurance policies and so on. For criminals, a fake identity can be bought for a couple of hundred pounds.

BARCLAYS reports its figures today and will be questioned about the £250 million the bank managed to lose as a result of the Russian debt default last summer. This was a one-off event, the first such by a sovereign power since 1947, but no one has ever successfully explained how Barclays got it so wrong.

There is a story doing the rounds of banking circles that tries to do so. The decision to take the ill-fated position came from the capital markets committee alone, without advice from any of the in-house Russian experts.

This might fit with what we know of the nature of Bob Diamond, the Barclays Capital boss, but it is unlikely to be the version of events on offer from Barclays today. The bank was quite rightly refusing to comment last night. But analysts present might like to ask for a list of Barclays's Russian experts last summer who might have been consulted, and just where they are now.

Derailed

A MATE rings. He was in a second-class compartment on the London to Norwich express on Friday night when someone next to him pulled out the contents of a larger briefcase and set to work.

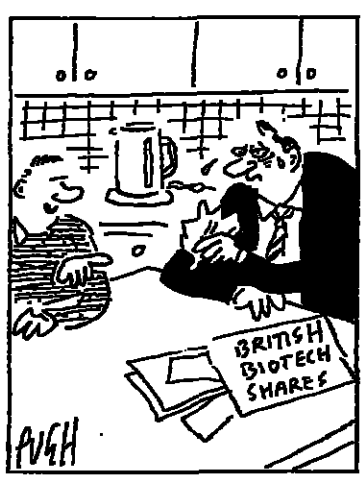
My friend had a look. You would, wouldn't you? The documents were addressed to Tony Habgood, non-executive director of PowerGen, and re-

lated to a meeting of the company's remuneration committee tomorrow.

Further than that I will not say. But he is a PowerGen non-exec and the meeting is indeed tomorrow. I rang Habgood to check a) whether it was his double/mistaken identity, and b) why on earth, if you must transact such highly sensitive business, you don't at least upgrade to first class.

"Ha, ha, ha. I don't think I've any comment on that," he replies. Long pause. "I'm trying to remember where the hell I was on Friday." A truly yawning pause. "Yup, I've no comment on that."

MARTIN WALLER
city.diary@the-times.co.uk



Brown: quit without warning

051 77 11 21

Have an expert
evaluate your company's training.
You.

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

1999	1998	1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887	1886	1885	1884	1883	1882	1881	1880	1879	1878	1877	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872	1871	1870	1869	1868	1867	1866	1865	1864	1863	1862	1861	1860	1859	1858	1857	1856	1855	1854	1853	1852	1851	1850	1849	1848	1847	1846	1845	1844	1843	1842	1841	1840	1839	1838	1837	1836	1835	1834	1833	1832	1831	1830	1829	1828	1827	1826	1825	1824	1823	1822	1821	1820	1819	1818	1817	1816	1815	1814	1813	1812	1811	1810	1809	1808	1807	1806	1805	1804	1803	1802	1801	1800	1799	1798	1797	1796	1795	1794	1793	1792	1791	1790	1789	1788	1787	1786	1785	1784	1783	1782	1781	1780	1779	1778	1777	1776	1775	1774	1773	1772	1771	1770	1769	1768	1767	1766	1765	1764	1763	1762	1761	1760	1759	1758	1757	1756	1755	1754	1753	1752	1751	1750	1749	1748	1747	1746	1745	1744	1743	1742	1741	1740	1739	1738	1737	1736	1735	1734	1733	1732	1731	1730	1729	1728	1727	1726	1725	1724	1723	1722	1721	1720	1719	1718	1717	1716	1715	1714	1713	1712	1711	1710	1709	1708	1707	1706	1705	1704	1703	1702	1701	1700	1699	1698	1697	1696	1695	1694	1693	1692	1691	1690	1689	1688	1687	1686	1685	1684	1683	1682	1681	1680	1679	1678	1677	1676	1675	1674	1673	1672	1671	1670	1669	1668	1667	1666	1665	1664	1663	1662	1661	1660	1659	1658	1657	1656	1655	1654	1653	1652	1651	1650	1649	1648	1647	1646	1645	1644	1643	1642	1641	1640	1639	1638	1637	1636	1635	1634	1633	1632	1631	1630	1629	1628	1627	1626	1625	1624	1623	1622	1621	1620	1619	1618	1617	1616	1615	1614	1613	1612	1611	1610	1609	1608	1607	1606	1605	1604	1603	1602	1601	1600	1599	1598	1597	1596	1595	1594	1593	1592	1591	1590	1589	1588	1587	1586	1585	1584	1583	1582	1581	1580	1579	1578	1577	1576	1575	1574	1573	1572	1571	1570	1569	1568	1567	1566	1565	1564	1563	1562	1561	1560	1559	1558	1557	1556	1555	1554	1553	1552	1551	1550	1549	1548	1547	1546	1545	1544	1543	1542	1541	1540	1539	1538	1537	1536	1535	1534	1533	1532	1531	1530	1529	1528	1527	1526	1525	1524	1523	1522	1521	1520	1519	1518	1517	1516	1515	1514	1513	1512	1511	1510	1509	1508	1507	1506	1505	1504	1503	1502	1501	1500	1499	1498	1497	1496	1495	1494	1493	1492	1491	1490	1489	1488	1487	1486	1485	1484	1483	1482	1481	1480	1479	1478	1477	1476	1475	1474	1473	1472	1471	1470	1469	1468	1467	1466	1465	1464	1463	1462	1461	1460	1459	1458	1457	1456	1455	1454	1453	1452	1451	1450	1449	1448	1447	1446	1445	1444	1443	1442	1441	1440	1439	1438	1437	1436	1435	1434	1433	1432	1431	1430	1429	1428	1427	1426	1425	1424	1423	1422	1421	1420	1419	1418	1417	1416	1415	1414	1413	1412	1411	1410	1409	1408	1407	1406	1405	1404	1403	1402	1401	1400	1399	1398	1397	1396	1395	1394	1393	1392	1391	1390	1389	1388	1387	1386	1385	1384	1383	1382	1381	1380	1379	1378	1377	1376	1375	1374	1373	1372	1371	1370	1369	1368	1367	1366	1365	1364	1363	1362	1361	1360	1359	1358	1357	1356	1355	1354	1353	1352	1351	1350	1349	1348	1347	1346	1345	1344	1343	1342	1341	1340	1339	1338	1337	1336	1335	1334	1333	1332	1331	1330	1329	1328	1327	1326	1325	1324	1323	1322	1321	1320	1319	1318	1317	1316	1315	1314	1313	1312	1311	1310	1309	1308	1307	1306	1305	1304	1303	1302	1301	1300	1299	1298	1297	1296	1295	1294	1293	1292	1291	1290	1289	1288	1287	1286	1285	1284	1283	1282	1281	1280	1279	1278	1277	1276	1275	1274	1273	1272	1271	1270	1269	1268	1267	1266	1265	1264	1263	1262	1261	1260	1259	1258	1257	1256	1255	1254	1253	1252	1251	1250	1249	1248	1247	1246	1245	1244	1243	1242	1241	1240	1239	1238	1237	1236	1235	1234	1233	1232	1231	1230	1229	1228	1227	1226	1225	1224	1223	1222	1221	1220	1219	1218	1217	1216	1215	1214	1213	1212	1211	1210	1209	1208	1207	1206	1205	1204	1203	1202	1201	1200	1199	1198	1197	1196	1195	1194	1193	1192	1191	1190	1189	1188	1187	1186	1185	1184	1183	1182	1181	1180	1179	1178	1177	1176	1175	1174	1173	1172	1171	1170	1169	1168	1167	1166	1165	1164	1163	1162	1161	1160	1159	1158	1157	1156	1155	1154	1153	1152	1151	1150	1149	1148	1147	1146	1145	1144	1143	1142	1141	1140	1139	1138	1137	1136	1135	1134	1133	1132	1131	1130	1129	1128	1127	1126	1125	1124	1123	1122	1121	1120	1119	1118	1117	1116	1115	1114	1113	1112	1111	1110	1109	1108	1107	1106	1105	1104	1103	1102	1101	1100	1099	1098	1097	1096	1095	1094	1093	1092	1091	1090	1089	1088	1087	1086	1085	1084	1083	1082	1081	1080	1079	1078	1077	1076	1075	1074	1073	1072	1071	1070	1069	1068	1067	1066	1065	1064	1063	1062	1061	1060	1059	1058	1057	1056	1055	1054	1053	1052	1051	1050	1049	1048	1047	1046	1045	1044	1043	1042	1041	1040	1039	1038	1037	1036	1035	1034	1033	1032	1031	1030	1029	1028	1027	1026	1025	1024	1023	1022	1021	1020	1019	1018	1017	1016	1015	1014	1013	1012	1011	1010	1009	1008	1007	1006	1005	1004	1003	1002	1001	1000	999	998	997	996	995	994	993	992	991	990	989	988	987	986	985	984	983	982	981	980	979	978	977	976	975	974	973	972	971	970	969	968	967	966	965	964	963	962	961	960	959	958	957	956	955	954	953	952	951	950	949	948	947	946	945	944	943	942	941	940	939	938	937	936	935	934	933	932	931	930	929	928	927	926	925	924	923	922	921	920	919	918	917	916	915	914	913	912	911	910	909	908	907	906	905	904	903	902	901	900	899	898	897	896	895	894	893	892	891	890	889	888	887	886	885	884	883	882	881	880	879	878	877	876	875	874	873	872	871	870	869	868	867	866	865	864	863	862	861	860	859	858	857	856	855	854	853	852	851	850	849	848	847	846	845	844	843	842	841	840	839	838	837	836	835	834	833	832	831	830	829	828	827	826	825	824	823	822	821	820	819	818	817	816	815	814	813	812	811	810	809	808	807	806	805	804	803	802	801	800	799	798	797	796	795	794	793	792	791	790	789	788	787	786	785	784	783	782	781	780	779	778	777	776	775	774	773	772	771	770	769	768	767	766	765	764	763	762	761	760	759	758	757	756	755	754	753	752	751	750	749	748	747	746	745	744	743	742	741	740	739	738	737	736	735	734	733	732	731	730	729	728	727	726	725	724	723	722	721	720	719	718	717	716	715	714	713	712	711	710	709	708	707	706	705	704	703	702	701	700	699	698	697	696	695	694	693	692	691	690	689	688	687	686	685	684	683	682	681	680	679	678	677	676	675	674	673	672	671	670	669	668	667	666	665	664	663	662	661	660	659	658	657	656	655	654	653	652	651	650	649	648	647	646	645	644	643	642	641	640	639	638	637	636	635	634	633	632	631	630	629	628	627	626	625	624	623	622	621	620	619	618	617	616	615	614	613	612	611	610	609	608	607	606	605	604	603	602	601	600	599	598	597	596	595	594	593	592	591	590	589	588	587	586	585	584	583	582	581
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This mid-sized City firm is embarking on a major expansion and seeks property litigation as a key growth area, given that it already has one of the best non-contentious practices. A newly qualified needs to show enthusiasm, but no experience, to work alongside two high-profile partners. Ref T7005

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CORPORATE KNOW-HOW To £24,000
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For further information, in complete confidence, please contact Nick Shilton, Greg Abrahams or Seamus Hoar (all qualified lawyers) on 0171 405 6082 (0171 359 7077 or 0171 433 4663 evenings/weekends) or write to them at QD Legal.

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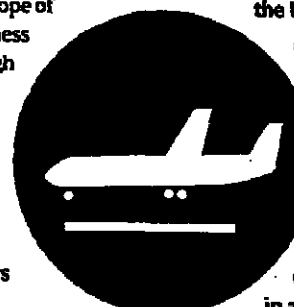
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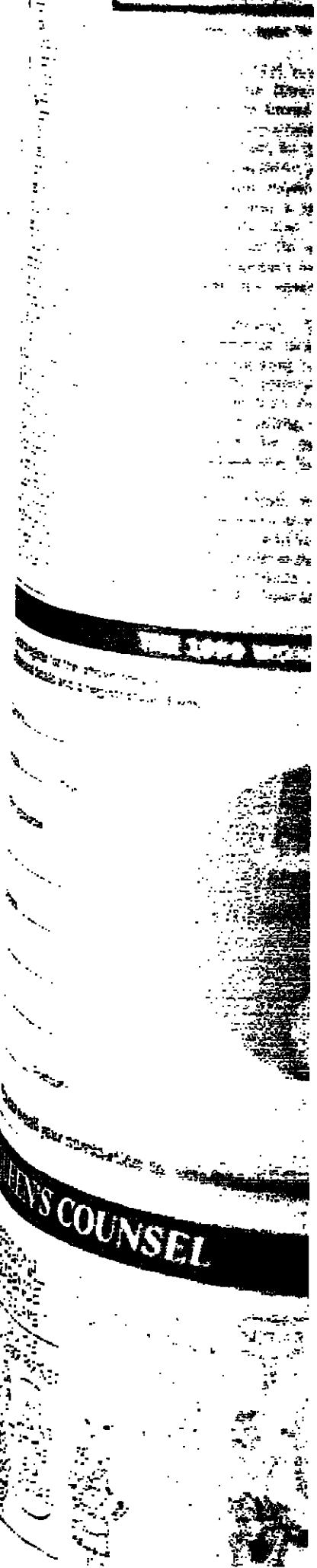
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THE 1999 WOMAN LAWYER FORUM

Flexi lawyers dream of a lifestyle practice

Frances Gibb on a bold plan to modernise the way legal firms operate

The dream law practice for the millennium would be family-friendly, offer flexible hours, be high-tech and non-hierarchical — and that's just for a start. A far cry, in other words, from the traditional solicitors' firm or set of barristers' chambers.

This month three lawyers are launching such a practice in London. Fed up with the profession's long-hours culture and narrow career paths, David Warner, Michael Jones and Jennie Wade are pioneering what they hope will be the model way of working in the law in future.

The aims of Jones & Warner, which will operate from Lombard Street as a niche employment law practice catering to top companies, coincide neatly with the themes of this year's Woman Lawyer Forum, sponsored by *The Times*. The forum on May 15 (see right and coupon below) will debate "changing the way we work" at a time when many younger lawyers are starting to resent the long hours expected in practice.

Ms Wade is one of them. She is a mother of two children under the age of three, so the new firm is ideally timed. Working as a partner, she will do flexible hours over two days, with some work from home. "It is becoming harder for both men and women to counter the total immersion syndrome," she says. "You have to be at your desk 16 hours a day because more and more people are doing it."

"At present, women may be doing well in a firm, then take some time off to have children. But they are not helped to come back. Or they fear taking time off at all and come back as quickly as possible, full-time, to achieve their career goal."

The idea grew from a blueprint for a modern legal practice. Mr Jones, for 20 years a commercial barrister at One Essex Court, says: "It started as a philosophical discussion about how law firms could and should organise themselves in the modern age."

Both he and Mr Warner already knew each other from Warner Cranston, the City law firm that Mr Warner founded in 1979 and built into a highly regarded practice with 20 partners and 130 staff.

He became senior partner, but at 50 wanted a change. Mr



Family firm: Jennie Wade and her children, with colleagues Michael Jones (centre) and David Warner

Jones, had left the firm to join the Warner Cranston firm as a litigation partner, to found the firm's advocacy department. "I was very surprised by how hierarchical the solicitors' profession was. People expect to work hard, to become a partner way down the line but with few rewards on the way — the assistant solicitors were undervalued and not expected to participate."

After brainstorming, they came up with several factors they did not like: the long haul to partnership, the emphasis on targets that solicitors must achieve in terms of billing, the lack of flexibility for partners and generally the "total immersion culture".

The firm will break new ground in several ways: in employing barristers, solicitors and using other professionals such as human resource experts, to create a "one-stop

shop" in employment law. It hopes to expand up to 27 partners, becoming the largest specialist employment practice in the country.

The area of law fits well with its philosophy of catering to what it calls "lifestyle" lawyers who want to work in new ways and who in large numbers are being lost to the profession at present. Mr Warner says: "Women with children, those looking after relatives, people wanting career breaks or combining academic work with live law... a well-run legal practice should accommodate all these."

What happens when the lawyer handling a case is not there? One answer is a rota: clients will be served by a team of lawyers and know all members, one of whom will al-

ways be on duty. Lawyers will also all have home work stations, complete with modems and mobile phones at their disposal.

The firm will break with usual remuneration methods. There will be salaries, plus bonuses and incentives, with people given 10 per cent commission for work introduced. A quarter of all profits go to a bonus pool to be split among everyone.

At first, it will be a partnership, but in a few years' time it sees itself and other law firms becoming incorporated. "Economically," Mr Warner says, "we are run as a company — with the shareholders, directors and employees getting the rewards."

Some may say it sounds too good to be true. But if it works, then Jones & Warner will have cut a path that others will be rushing to follow.



Cherie Booth, QC



Cheryl Carolus



Kamlesh Bahl



Baroness Jay

Women must make a difference at the top

Why a new equality deal is still needed

Why have a woman lawyers' forum — women have made it now, haven't they? The comment came, perhaps unsurprisingly, from a man. And it is true that women now account for half the annual entrants to the legal profession. But despite its changing landscape, the profession remains a masculine one, argues Clare McGlynn.

In her new book, *Woman Lawyer — making the difference*, Ms McGlynn, a law lecturer at Newcastle University, highlights the need for fundamental reform in the organisation of the profession if women are to play their full role as lawyers and judges.

The statistics tell the story: women are still not represented in the senior judiciary (there is only one woman in the Court of Appeal); and women account for only 12 per cent of Queen's Counsel. There has not been a woman leader of the Law Society; only 16 per cent of women are partners in law firms; and the average earnings of women solicitors are lower than those of men.

Partly the reason is historical, reflecting the smaller pool of women available to promote to senior positions. But it is also the way the profession is structured: the inbuilt obstacles in its working practices, particularly where women want to

combine work and a career. This bigger picture is the target of this year's Woman Lawyer Forum on May 15. The theme is mainstreaming, an ugly but apt word. The forum, launched five years ago by Margaret McCabe, a barrister, is now a mainstream event, sponsored by the Law Society and the Bar and central to the profession's policy-making debates.

Kamlesh Bahl, one of the speakers and Law Society deputy vice-president, says: "Mainstreaming is about a new approach, about building equality into policies from the start into every aspect of employment. Every decision taken should be looked at from this angle — will it impact adversely on women or any other group?"

Women may be spearheading this approach, but it applies equally to any other group who might face discrimination. It is not, she argues, the old-style battle for women's rights but about changing attitudes to equality across society.

This year's programme has a star-studded line-up, including Baroness Jay of Paddington, Minister for Women, who is giving a keynote speech; Cherie Booth, QC; Mrs Justice Hale; Cheryl Carolus, the South African High Commissioner to London; Janet Gaymer, head of employment at Simmons & Simmons; Baroness Kennedy of

the Shaws; and Professor Judith Resnik, Professor of Law at Yale.

There will be open-forum sessions and eight different workshops on themes from changing the way we work to management and leadership skills, client-getting, violence against women and, for the first time at a mainstream event, a session on sexual harassment in the workplace.

The *Times* is sponsoring the Woman of Achievement in the Law Awards, which will be presented at a reception by Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor. For nominations for the award, see the coupon below left.

The forum will also see the launch of Euro Women or the European Women Lawyers' Association. Not just lawyers but lawyers and their clients are looking more towards Europe: one in three businesses in the UK and Europe is being set up by women.

Ms McCabe adds: "It was women who first got together and made the point that women's issues were not being addressed. Now we are saying: 'This is not just a matter to be left to us; it is for everyone.' The debate has come of age."

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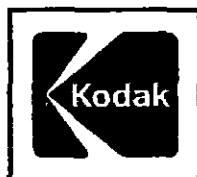
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Well respected City firm urgently needs a junior lawyer to join the insurance section of its Litigation and Dispute Resolution Group. The group is ranked 'highly regarded' and currently has 10 partners and 40 associates. You will be dealing with a variety of work including product/public liability and pharmaceutical/biotech cases and acting for large insurance companies. Ref: 5733. Contact: Ailsa Martin.

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City office of international firm has an opening in its highly respected property litigation department. You will advise an excellent client base on a full range of property disputes and management issues including rent reviews, dilapidations and repossession. This firm will give you the opportunity to use your own initiative and the freedom to develop your skills. Ref: 5820. Contact: Ailsa Martin.

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This department has been at the forefront of advising large UK plus and foreign owned multi-nationals on cutting edge employment law and have 2-20 lawyers who have unparalleled expertise in handling a full range of contentious and non-contentious work. With aims to grow further, two mid-level, technically sound assistants from good 'stables' are sought. The firm is well known for its 'open door' policy. Ref: 7598. Contact: Jane Glasbeery.

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Having tripled in size in the space of two years, the property department of this extremely popular City practice advises investors, developers and occupiers on industrial, commercial and retail property work (eg sales/purchases, L&L, lease and management work). Excellent support, good quality work and a friendly team is on offer in the junior solicitor who is not afraid of responsibility! Ref: 6719. Contact: Jane Glasbeery.

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The EU Competition department of this City firm consists of c.15 lawyers and is headed by two leading lights who are very highly regarded in their field. You will handle all aspects of EU and UK competition law and probably will have undertaken a Stage at the Commission. The firm is meritoric and has a young culture. Ref: 7143. Contact: Pandora Gattis.

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NO - 2 Years' PQE

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1-3 Years' PQE

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EMPLOYMENT - City

This specialist hi-tech firm has gained rave reviews in the legal press and has captured some of the top US and UK companies as clients. They are now looking for a salaried employment partner with 4-8 years' ppe to carry out all aspects of employment work for high-tech clients. Ref: 6462. Contact: Scott Silvers.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAWYER

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Salaried Partner

This specialist hi-tech firm has gained rave reviews in the legal press and has captured some of the top US and UK companies as clients. They are now looking for a salaried employment partner with 4-8 years' ppe to carry out all aspects of employment work for high-tech clients. Ref: 6462. Contact: Scott Silvers.

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This role falls into a specialist department of two partners and three associates. High profile work includes environmental audit work for major property developments, waste management and land contamination and reclamation. Excellent mentoring offered. Ref: 6976. Contact: Peter Goodwin.

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US based power company seeks two senior lawyers with substantial transactional experience (10-12 years' ppe). Each post is a first-time appointment. The successful candidates will act autonomously for local activities but be part of a worldwide team of 12 attorneys. You are likely to have in-house experience, have worked with business/project managers and ideally have previous power industry experience. Ref: 6863. Contact: Peter Goodwin.

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Investment Bank

The legal department of a US house requires a derivatives lawyer with 8+ years experience to manage a team of several lawyers dealing with credit linked products, convertibility notes, non-deliverable forwards, credit default swaps and other derivatives. Ref: 6970. Contact: Tanya Allaway.

Investment Bank

Do you have 3-4 years experience of futures transactions? If so, the legal department of a leading US house may be a home for you. Team spirit is of paramount importance to this bank which hires for keeps. Ref: 6972. Contact: Tanya Allaway.

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First time appointment, sole charge position with innovative telecoms company (2-5 years' ppe). Broad range of work includes drafting and negotiating a variety of agreements in a highly commercial environment. Previous telecoms experience is essential either gained at a law firm or 'in-house'. Ref: 6887. Contact: Richard Gane.

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Part of the Fashion Café's assets was the name value of the supermodels Elle Macpherson, left, Naomi Campbell, Claudia Schiffer

The face value of names

What do household names such as the Fashion Café, Yardley and Falmer Jeans have in common? Their collapses have been widely publicised over recent months and one of the chief issues in each case for the administrator or receiver was how to exploit intellectual property rights, the IPR, the companies owned.

What is the link between IPRs and insolvency? With a recession looming, practitioners need to get to grips with IPRs as they are among the most important assets of companies in every sector.

The appointment of John Alexander as administrator of the Fashion Café highlighted how the role of the insolvency practitioner has markedly changed. When launched amid huge press coverage, the Fashion Café was expected to rival Planet Hollywood with the supermodels Claudia Schiffer, Naomi Campbell and Elle Macpherson as its star attractions for regular appearances and publicity. Part of the Fashion Café's value was its name and the company also owned trademarks. The risk of damage to the name itself will have been one reason why the company opted for administration rather than liquidation.

Intellectual property rights can be very valuable — particularly with a recession looming, says Charles Pugh

Indeed, the type of businesses most at risk from a recession are those companies in sectors heavily reliant on intangible IPRs for their asset base.

Yardley, the "quintessential English" cosmetics group, collapsed last August. Just before Christmas the receivers could celebrate the sale of the Yardley name and many of its brands. Though they recognised that the real value lay in the goodwill attached to the brand names, they found how complex sales can be when IPRs are owned in numerous countries: in the sale of Bath Luxuries, trademark rights were involved in more than 100 countries.

IPRs are extensive and protect know-how, technical processes, computer programs, as well as brands. As emphasised by Mr Justice Jacob, in *Western Intelligence Limited v KDO Label Printing Machines Limited & Others* (Judgment May 1998), included in a company's assets may be design rights, rights in customer lists, and even its telephone numbers, all of which may be

critical to the success of the business. That dispute concerned one of the so-called "phoenix" companies that arise from the ashes when a company goes into liquidation leaving creditors without recourse. Soon after, a new company emerges with the same or similar name with the benefit of the goodwill of the old company. The judge said that when this happens, transfers of important assets may occur between the old and new company with the "innocent, perhaps gullible, assistance of banks, receivers and accountants".

Before the transfer, bona fide valuations may have been obtained of the stock, property, fixtures and fittings and the amount payable calculated accordingly. So on the face of it a liquidator would have no grounds to set aside the transfer or, alternatively, to take action against the directors. But this may ignore the IPR that the original company owned and exploited.

Serious consequences may flow from this for the insolvency practitioner and the appointing bank. In *Western Intelligence*, the assets of the original company had been charged to the bank: unaware of the value of IPRs in the company, the bank gave its consent to a transfer of assets instigated by directors seeking to establish a new company with a similar name. According to the judge, the bank was not "fully alive to what their client was up to and with more care they might have found out".

The outcome was that the assets could be recovered by a creditor for his own benefit, leaving the bank out of pocket. The failure to recognise that the value that exists in IPRs was identified by the judge as one factor enabling the setting up of phoenix companies to continue.

The Government recently estimated the creative sector of the economy at £58 billion, growing at double the rate of the rest of the economy. The importance of IPRs cannot be underestimated and all of us, including insolvency practitioners, who will pick up the pieces of the less successful companies, need to recognise the critical role these rights play.

● The author is head of insolvency at Llewellyn Ziemann, solicitors.

Charity should begin at the lawyer's office

Voluntary groups and charities may lose out if they are unclear about their rights. Gary Slapper reports

Charities are facing a surge in work with the dismantling of parts of the welfare state. But legal problems are impairing their ability to deliver services.

The large, well-known charities are used to engaging law firms to protect their interests and thus the interests of their beneficiaries. Most small voluntary organisations, however, cannot afford to make regular use of lawyers, and there is mounting evidence that they are being legally abused by the large public bodies that buy their services.

The Local Government Bill is now going through the House of Commons. This will give charities and voluntary groups a much greater role in the provision of social services because local authorities will be obliged under the new "best value regime" to make arrangements for the achievement of "economy, efficiency and effectiveness" in performing their statutory functions.

There are about 187,000 registered charities in England and Wales, but only a few hundred appear to make regular use of law firms. The total annual income of all charities registered with the Charity Commission is more than £18 billion. But the wealth is concentrated in a few large charities, the commission reports.

In fact, about 70 per cent of registered charities have an annual income of £10,000 or less, and the pooled income of three quarters of them amounts to less than 2 per cent of the entire annual income of charities.

Thousands of these organisations are now making contracts with local authorities, the NHS and other public bodies to provide services for unwell or vulnerable people. The trouble is that the charities are not taking legal advice about how best to make contracts and are, consequently, getting into trouble. The National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) and the Charity Commission have recently published advice on how to proceed through the often prickly pathway of the law of contract.

In one case highlighted by the NCVO, a charity was contracted by a local authority on its standard terms. Under the agreement, to work with the social services department, the charity had to provide "fiduciary insurance". Broadly, this covers an employer or service purchaser against liability for the dishonesty of an employee or voluntary worker. The charity in this case, though, had no idea about the implications of the contract term.

The NCVO document *Mutual Obligations — A Guide to Contracts with Public Bodies* contains some clear examples of the benefits of good legal interventions being made on behalf of charities.

The document was written by Joss Saunders, a partner with Linnells, who notes: "Just because a charity has been offered funding does not mean that it has to accept it on the first terms offered. Some things are negotiable."

A social services department included in its standard terms of purchase the

right to demand the removal of staff members from the project. The charity successfully objected on the ground that staffing decisions were a matter for the charity, not for the purchaser. The charity was responsible for ensuring that service levels were performed, and there were monitoring provisions, but it was reasonable for the charity not to allow the department power to remove its staff.

Small charities are often unclear about points that lawyers regard as relatively simple at what point in negotiations is a legally binding contract formed? What is the difference between agreements made by contract and those by deed? If an organisation takes over a project involving existing employees, what are its obligations under the Transfer of Undertakings Regulations 1981? Sometimes a lawyer's request for the judicious insertion of the word "reasonable" in a few places in the agreement ("the trustees will take all reasonable steps...") can make all the difference.

The law of charity is a complex and organic entity but it does not truly impede charitable work. By contrast, ordinary general law, such as the law of contract, is vexing the work of charities in numerous ways. This is surely an area of law pre-eminently suitable for pro bono work, especially as, by helping one party — the charity — hundreds or thousands of its beneficiaries will also be helped.

● The author is director of the Law Programme, the Open University.

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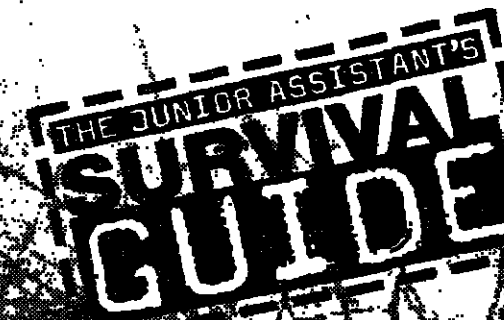
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Few great players have reacted to success as modestly as the Open champion

O'Meara remains true to his roots



JOHN HOPKINS

Look into Mark O'Meara's eyes, as Brian Watts did during the play-off for the Open Championship last year and as Tiger Woods did when expecting O'Meara to concede him an 18in putt in the final of the World Match Play Championship at Wentworth, and you see the desire of a born competitor.

O'Meara's face is as round as a golf ball and welcoming, the sort of comforting face that you hope to see when you walk into an unfamiliar bar. But do not be fooled.

This is the man who won two major championships and was the outstanding golfer in the world in 1998, a man who has called for competitors in the Ryder Cup to be paid, the man who has become a mentor to Woods, his neighbour. "That's Mark," Peter Malik, his manager, said. "Easy-going and gentlemanly, but hard."

We are all children of our parents, some of us owing more to the influences of one than the other. Greg Norman, for example, is driven by a desire to please his father, while Nick Faldo is the living embodiment of the aims and ambitions of his mother.

O'Meara is the balanced product. From Bob, his father, he has inherited the capacity to make friends easily, a characteristic that stood him in good stead as a child when his parents moved house seven times before he was 13.

Nelda O'Meara has passed on to her son a considerable work ethic, an outlook on life

that has made him cherish what he has had to work for and an understanding of the true meaning of wealth. With winnings of nearly £2 million last year alone, O'Meara could easily afford to buy or lease a plane and he considered it for a while, before those maternal teachings surfaced. "It was either fly around by myself or have a nice apartment where I could enjoy some off-season time with my family," he said. "So I bought an apartment in Deer Valley, Utah, where we can all ski."

"As a kid, I remember my Mom would ask me to go and pull the weeds. I'd go out there, pull them real quick and come back in and she would say to me: 'You're not done. You didn't get the roots. You have got to get the roots, otherwise the weeds grow right back again.' These are the things she taught me. Turn off the light. Take care of your things."

"The first thing I do a lot of times when I get home after a trip is go down early the next morning and wash the cars and maybe wax them if they need it. Or I'll go and clean up my boats."

Though, on and off a golf course, O'Meara has a pleasantly rumpled look that adds to his charm, he is, in fact, almost as neat as Justin Leonard, his predecessor as Open champion, who puts his socks in rows according to their colours.

"People who come to my home might say: 'Wow, you can eat off the garage floor.' My feeling, from when I be-



O'Meara, a late developer, is friendly and approachable off the course but a fierce competitor on it. Photograph: Andrew Redington/Allsport

gan playing professionally, is that I started with very little and now I've got a few nice things. I used to take care of things back then. I do so now. You should take pride that you have accomplished something in your life that has enabled you to afford to buy something nice."

Bob and Nelda O'Meara were not the only influences at work on the young Mark. Ben Hogan played his part, too. It was in the offices of the legendary champion that O'Meara, the 1979 US Amateur champion, signed to turn professional.

Later, O'Meara sought help with his golf swing from Hogan, before ignoring it, in a burst of youthful heresy. "Mr Hogan said: 'I'll watch you hit

some balls, but I might not say anything."

"A couple of years later, I came out to Shady Oaks and he watched me hit balls. I was hitting it great. He told me things about my swing and he got me set up in a certain way and then I started hitting it and I was doing it worse. I asked him what he thought. He said: 'That looks a lot better.' I thought to myself: 'I'm not going to do this. I am doing better with what I've got.' So I stuck with what I was working on."

By one of those pleasing co-

incidences that come along from time to time, O'Meara was 41 last year, his year of years, the same age as Hogan in 1953, when he had his year of years, winning the Masters, the US Open and the Open Championship. Another link: Hogan won the 1953 Open at Carnoustie, the redoubtable Scottish course, and it is there in July that O'Meara will defend his title.

When, late in 1996, Woods moved to within 40 paces of O'Meara's house in Isleworth, Orlando, Florida, it was clear that he was going to learn

from O'Meara. What is less well-known is how much O'Meara has been revitalised by the young man who is almost half his age. O'Meara has been one of the most consistent golfers in the United States for the past 15 years, but an exceptional one since Woods's arrival.

"Being a friend of Tiger's has definitely helped me improve my game, because Tiger Woods can do things with a golf ball that Mark O'Meara cannot. He has so much more ability than I know I have, so I have had to find some way to

beat him or get my game up a couple of notches. Earlier this month, when Tiger and I played together at Pebble Beach, we were walking down the 15th hole and he said: 'I enjoy playing so much with you. I have learnt so much watching you play.' I guess he means from the way I conduct myself on the course, the way I manage myself around it."

"I hope if he came to me and asked for an honest opinion, I would give him that and, if he steps out of line or I think he is doing something crazy, I have told him. I would reproach him. Let's face it, he has brought a lot of new interest into golf. He has been good for golf."

He might have added: "And good for Mark O'Meara, too."

'Being a friend of Tiger's has definitely helped me to improve my game'

Faldo gets final place in field at La Costa

BY JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

NICK FALDO arrived in London yesterday a happy man, relieved that none of his rivals for a place in the Andersen Consulting World Match Play Championship in California next week had overtaken him in the latest world ranking list, compiled after tournaments around the world had concluded on Sunday.

Faldo has cancelled plans to compete in the European Tour event in Qatar this week and, instead, will stay in England before flying to La Costa to prepare for the first of the World Golf Championship events.

Somehow, Faldo has held on to 65th place in the world rankings, despite missing the two-round cut in the Desert Classic in Dubai last week. The field for the World Golf Championship event is the world's top 64 players and since Jumbo Ozaki, ranked No 14, will not be there, Faldo has got the last spot.

He needed plenty of luck to make it. The performances of Andrew Coltart, Robert Karlsson and Per-Ulrik Johansson in Dubai were not good enough for them to overtake him. In the Australian Masters, Greg Turner, of New Zealand, would have taken over from Faldo had he finished in a two-way tie for third. He did finish third — but with two others, not one.

After this news had been relayed to Faldo in Dubai, all that remained was to check performances in the Buick Invitational tournament in San Diego, where Chris Perry needed to finish second to eliminate the former Open champion and David Thomas seventh. As it happened, Perry came fourth and although Thomas had a putt to make Faldo's journey unnecessary, it went wide.

Faldo's participation may prove to be a mixed blessing, however, for he must face Tiger Woods, the world No 1, in the first round and Woods is in form. He won the San Diego event, his first victory since May last year.

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Richard Evans on a new trainer at West Ilsley

Coakley confident of staying the distance

It is a fact that every week of the year, on average, a racehorse trainer gives up the struggle to make ends meet and hands in his or her licence. It is also a fact that a new trainer takes out a licence, on average, every week of the year.

Economists would be delighted by such a perfect example of supply and demand at work and suggest, no doubt, that the racehorse training profession is finely matched to the needs of the consumer. Students of human nature might argue that such statistics prove trainers are divided equally into pessimists and optimists. Denis Coakley is about to discover the truth.

After spending the last ten years as assistant to Lord Huntingdon at West Ilsley, during which time he experienced the joys of Royal Ascot winners and helping to prepare horses owned by the Queen, he is the latest recruit to the training ranks.

Coakley, 39, is living proof of the old adage about every cloud having a silver lining. Although he had hummed and hawed about setting up on his

own, the decision last October by Lord Huntingdon to hand in his licence was the jolt which transformed thought into action. As Huntingdon closed a chapter in his life, he helped to open another for his protégé. "My first thought upon hearing the news was to start training myself," he recalled yesterday.

The 16-box yard from which Coakley is setting up shop is based on a couple of furlongs down the drive from the historic West Ilsley yard which is now up for sale. Keepers Stables, built a decade ago but used only occasionally as an isolation yard, is owned by Huntingdon, who has always preached the need for starter yards for young trainers. Now he has the opportunity to put words into action and is renting the yard out on a box by box basis — and offering positive encouragement by filling one of them with Gascon, an unraced three-year-old.

Former owners with Huntingdon have also been swift to give Coakley an all-important leg up onto the training ladder. Stanley Sharp, who enjoyed such success with

Penny Drops, winner of the Cambridgehire and Foric Mile, has sent him four horses, including a Barathra colt out of Penny Drops.

George Ward, one of racing's biggest sponsors who particularly enjoys West Ilsley's tranquility, has filled two boxes with Smart Squall, a listed winner, and a two-year-old by Puissance. Faraway Lass, a useful top of the ground sprinter who has won five races, will carry John Rose's colours while Sharp Spire, owned by a Newbury syndicate, is another to have made the short journey to Keepers Stables.

By the start of the Flat season, in six weeks' time, a dozen of the boxes should be full and Coakley will find out whether he has what it takes. His apprenticeship within racing gives him every chance of success.

After riding point-to-point and bumper winners in his native Ireland, he went to Australia, where he first met Huntingdon in the early 1980s, and worked on a stud. He then joined Gordon Richards in Cumbria and enjoyed

a fair share of success as a jockey, including winners at Cheltenham and Aintree, before going to the United States. After working for Janet Epton, a leading jumps trainer, and Neil Drysdale, he joined Huntingdon at Newmarket in 1988.

When Huntingdon announced he was retiring, Coakley was quick to attend a three-week trainers' course at the British Racing School in Newmarket, a compulsory requirement before a licence can be granted by the Jockey Club.

The lectures on management of horses may have taught him little new, but learning how to deal with staff, setting up a business plan and coping with accounts proved invaluable. As a result he has devised an all-in training package — excluding transport — for £240 a week, which makes life simpler for owners and himself.

"I hope to have five horses ready to run in April. They are all fit and healthy at the moment. I will be disappointed if the horses I have got do not all win in their own grade." Now there is confidence for you.



Coakley returns from exercising Browning, one of his recruits, at Keepers Stables, his base in West Ilsley

SEDFIELD

2.00 Disco Tex	3.30 Falehalkhair
2.30 Turpule	4.00 Baleswhidden
3.00 Caldams	4.30 Royal Scimitar
	5.00 Simple Tonic

Timekeeper's top rating: 4.30 ROYAL SCIMITAR.

GOING: GOOD TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

2.00 LEVY BOARD NOVICES HANDICAP HURDLE

(£2,635 2m 11) (15 runners)

101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200
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Keith Jones loses out to Steve McManaman but Charlton Athletic's valiant defending brought them an invaluable victory over Liverpool. Photograph: Kieran Doherty

FA Cup means £1,000 prize bonanza in week's rollover

This week, with the FA Cup fifth round taking precedence over fixtures in the FA Carling Premiership, there is no award of a weekly prize of £500 and no ON-Target numbers. The winner of last week's ON-Target will be announced next week.

Only three matches have been played over the past week which count towards the Times Fantasy League lists. Points scored in these matches have been added to the player lists (right) and count towards the monthly and overall prizes, but will not be taken into account in deciding next week's winner.

Next week's prize, based on Premiership matches played between today and next Sunday inclusive, will be a roll-over of £1,000 worth of Puma sports equipment. The ON-Target prize will also be a £1,000 roll-over.

If you are considering making any transfers, it is worth bearing in mind that, as well as next weekend's league programme, there is a clutch of important FA Cup matches taking place tomorrow night.

Top of the bill is the contest between Manchester United and Arsenal at Old Trafford, a match that some pundits are describing as a possible championship decider, although many of the crowd at Stamford Bridge, where an improving Blackburn Rovers team visit Chelsea, might well beg to differ.

By the way, Dennis Bergkamp and Emmanuel Petit would not be particularly good players to transfer into your team: both are suspended.



Bergkamp only for tomorrow and Petit for three matches.

At the other end of the table, Everton will attempt to score only their fourth league goal of the season at Goodison Park — thinking about a fifth or sixth would be taking optimism a bit too far — when they

receive Middlesbrough. Meanwhile, Coventry City go to St James' Park to play Newcastle United, and will hope to put more daylight between themselves and the foot of the Premiership. Two teams who have lost their way in recent weeks will try to recover their league form

when Leeds United travel to play Aston Villa at Villa Park.

The three Premiership games played in the past eight days have produced two surprises and one more predictable result, although even West Ham United's 2-1 victory over Nottingham Forest on Saturday contained elements of the unexpected.

Two of the goalscorers at Upton Park were unlikely marksmen: first, Ian Pearce, the central defender, popped up to give West Ham the lead with a neat volley; then, after Frank Lampard had converted a cross by Trevor Sinclair, another defender, Jon Olav Hjelde, reduced the arrears when he headed in a free kick by Pierre van Hooijdonk.

The goal was a consolation not only to Forest but perhaps also to any Fantasy League entrant whose team included Hjelde, scorer of minus seven points the previous weekend as a result of his part in Forest's 8-1 defeat at the hands of Manchester United.

Charlton Athletic victories are like the No 17 bus: none for ages, then two come along at once. Successive clean sheets against Wimbledon and Liverpool were worth six points to anyone with Charlton defenders in their selections.

So, Messrs Royce, Tiler, Powell and company, Fantasy League managers would like to state unequivocally that they always knew you would come good. Consistency among the forwards was harder to find, with Martin Pringle, Keith Jones and the unfortunate Dean Blackwell, of Wimbledon, scoring the goals for the Addicks.

PRIZES	
£50,000 to the top Fantasy League manager, plus a trip for two to the European Cup final	
£10,000 to the runner-up	
£5,000 to third place	
£1,000 monthly prizes: eight prizes of £1,000, plus £100 of Puma sports equipment	
£500 weekly prizes: 36 prizes of £500, plus £100 of Puma sports equipment	
£250 youth prize, plus monthly prizes of a Premiership football shirt	
£500 weekly On-Target prize	

HOW TO ENTER YOUR FANTASY LEAGUE TEAM

Select a team of 11 Premiership players from those listed right. The total value of your team must not exceed £50m and you cannot choose more than one player from the same Premiership club. Your team must be in a 4-4-2 formation with: one goalkeeper; two full-backs; two centre-backs; four midfielders; and two forwards.

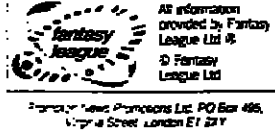
TO ENTER BY POST Name your team on the entry form, left, in no more than 18 characters. Enter the correct three-digit player codes from the list, right, followed by the players' names. Enter the first three characters of each player's name under the heading CLUB, i.e. LEE for Leeds. Also enter the value of each player shown on the list right. Add up the values of the 11 players in your

team and make sure the total does not exceed £50m. Send your entry to the address shown, with a cheque/PO for £2.50 (£10 sterling outside UK or ROI) or your credit-card details. You will get confirmation of your team and your personal identity number (PIN) on receipt of your entry form. Readers under 18 should seek parental permission before entering. They must state their date of birth and indicate if they wish to enter our Youth League.

LUCKY DIP If you would like us to select a team at random for you, please tick the Lucky Dip box on the entry form. Postal entries only.

TO ENTER BY PHONE Call 0640 67 88 99 (+44 870 901 4209 outside the UK) using a touch-

tone (DTMF) phone and when prompted tap in your 11 three-digit player codes. You will be asked to give the name of your team (no more than 16 characters). You will then be given a 10-digit PIN, make sure you write this down and keep it safe to be able to check your team's progress and make transfers. Calls last about seven minutes. 0640 calls are 60p per minute. Calls from outside the UK are charged at national rates. Calls from payphones cost approximately double.



FANTASY LEAGUE MAIN ENTRY FORM			
Submit your entry as soon as possible to maximise your point-scoring opportunities			
FANTASY TEAM NAME (up to 16 characters)			
LUCKY DIP If you wish to have your team selected by us at random, tick box <input type="checkbox"/>			
CODE	GOALKEEPER NAME	CLUB	VALUE
CODE	FULL-BACK NAME	CLUB	VALUE
CODE	FULL-BACK NAME	CLUB	VALUE
CODE	CENTRE-BACK NAME	CLUB	VALUE
CODE	CENTRE-BACK NAME	CLUB	VALUE
CODE	MIDFIELDER NAME	CLUB	VALUE
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CODE	MIDFIELDER NAME	CLUB	VALUE
CODE	FORWARD NAME	CLUB	VALUE
CODE	FORWARD NAME	CLUB	VALUE
MAXIMUM OF ONE PLAYER PER PREMIERSHIP TEAM			
TOTAL VALUE (MAX £50m)			
I wish to enter the Youth League (please tick) <input type="checkbox"/>			
I was under 18 on August 15, 1993. Date of birth			
First Name Surname			
Address			
Postcode Daytime tel			
Credit card number Expiry date			
MasterCard Visa Name on card			
Send with £2.50 entry fee (£10 sterling for entries outside the UK or ROI) to The Times Fantasy League, Atlantic House, Dudley St, Luton, Beds LU1 1ZZ			
1. On which days do you usually buy The Times? <input type="checkbox"/> Monday <input type="checkbox"/> Tuesday <input type="checkbox"/> Wednesday <input type="checkbox"/> Thursday <input type="checkbox"/> Friday <input type="checkbox"/> Saturday <input type="checkbox"/> Don't usually buy The Times			
2. Which other national daily newspaper(s) do you buy at least once a week?			
3. Which Sunday newspaper(s) do you buy at least once a week?			
4. Which Sunday newspaper(s) do you buy at least once a week?			
If you do not wish to receive other offers from Times Newspapers Limited, please tick box <input type="checkbox"/>			

CHOOSE YOUR PLAYERS FROM HERE

Columns show: code, name, club, weekly points, total points, value (£m)									
GOALKEEPERS									
102	A. Armstrong	ARS	0	25	3.7				
103	A. Brown	ARS	0	15	2.4				
104	A. Hinchey	ARS	0	12	2.9				
105	A. Jones	ARS	0	12	2.6				
106	A. Marshall	ARS	0	1	2.2				
107	A. Palmer	ARS	0	6	2.5				
108	A. Taylor	ARS	0	3	2.5				
109	A. Wright	ARS	0	3	2.5				
110	A. Young	ARS	0	1	2.2				
111	B. Barrett	ARS	0	1	2.2				
112	B. Boddie	ARS	0	1	2.2				
113	B. Davies	ARS	0	1	2.2				
114	B. Deane	ARS	0	1	2.2				
115	B. Dobson	ARS	0	1	2.2				
116	B. Dunne	ARS	0	1	2.2				
117	B. Easson	ARS	0	1	2.2				
118	B. Ford	ARS	0	1	2.2				
119	B. Gifford	ARS	0	1	2.2				
120	B. Hogg	ARS	0	1	2.2				
121	B. Ince	ARS	0	1	2.2				
122	B. Johnson	ARS	0	1	2.2				
123	B. Jones	ARS	0	1	2.2				
124	B. Marshall	ARS	0	1	2.2				
125	B. McManaman	ARS	0	1	2.2				
126	B. Mitchell	ARS	0	1	2.2				
127	B. Naylor	ARS	0	1	2.2				
128	B. O'Connell	ARS	0	1	2.2				
129	B. Parker	ARS	0	1	2.2				
130	B. Quinn	ARS	0	1	2.2				
131	B. Roberts	ARS	0	1	2.2				
132	B. Smith	ARS	0	1	2.2				
133	B. Taylor	ARS	0	1	2.2				
134	B. Topley	ARS	0	1	2.2				
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FOOTBALL

Keegan has qualities needed to revitalise England

By Kevin McCarron

As a teenager with a part-time job in a Coventry garage, Kevin Keegan was over the moon when he was told that he had been chosen to be the first to wear the new England kit.

This is a country in which a trace of romanticism is treated as contamination. Keegan's idealism is taken as a flaw and his capacity to enrich the game is disregarded completely. An adverse judgment was passed on him in 1996 when Newcastle United, having held a 12-point lead at one stage, were beaten to the FA Cup by Manchester United.

Tedious facts are soon forgotten and few are prepared to acknowledge that the greatest element of all in that duel was the 13 victories and a single draw that Alex Ferguson's side produced in their last 15 matches.

The more vivid memory is of Keegan delivering that televised tirade against Manchester United. It was then, supposedly, that he lost the plot and the championship.

Keegan can, indeed, be a hot-head, but it was the high temperature of his personality

that turned St James' Park into a cauldron. The ground, despite the recent, modest revival, has been a lukewarm place ever since he left in 1997. His labours there are due for reappraisal and so, too, is the case that his critics attempt to bring against him.

All of Keegan's weaknesses contain merits. His actions can be memorably thin-skinned and on one return as a television commentator to The Dell, where he had loaned his distinction to Southampton in a splendid late phase of his playing career, he was denied entry to the car park by an attendant. Keegan's response was to drive off and leave the broadcast to a hastily summoned replacement.

The impetuosity is not to be divorced from the intensity that can enliven a club. He brought Newcastle, and many of its players, to a higher level of consciousness.

Those who think him flighty and temperamental had better recall that he spent five years as manager at St James' Park. Kenny Dalglish, his successor lasted less than two and Raul Gullit is unlikely ever to become an honorary Georgie.

Keegan began by hauling Newcastle back by their braces as they were about to fall into the old third division. In his last full season, failure took the form of that barnstorming, if unavailing, assault on the championship. The costs of the transformation mounted, with Alan Shearer bought in 1996 for a then world-record fee of



Keegan in full flow during that infamous television interview in which he launched an attack on Manchester United

£15 million, but the craftiness with which Keegan manoeuvred is too often ignored.

He not only signed two valuable players, in Andy Cole and Peter Beardsley, but visualised the partnership in which each was the perfect setting for the other.

Keegan also possessed an insight into the best deployment of men whose gifts were misunderstood. Robert Lee, a journeyman right winger for nine years at Charlton Athletic, was given the central midfield role and went on, against all expectation, to turn into an England international.

Keegan's astuteness is underestimated. Having been rejected by Coventry City as a youngster because he was deemed to be too small, he went on to build not only muscle, but also, and more importantly, his understanding of the game. Few forwards have been cleverer at leading bigger opponents into areas where the advantage lay

with nimbleness and his destruction of a man-marker, the great Bert Vogts, was the key to Liverpool's triumph when they beat Borussia Mönchengladbach in the 1977 European Cup final.

The years with SV Ham-

burg, where he twice won the European Footballer of the Year award, extended his education. It was not blind folly that prevented him from turning Newcastle into a cautious, dull outfit that might have edged their way to a trophy.

Keegan possesses intelligence, but it is conditioned by his principles. None of the derision encountered has broken his belief that football should be thrilling entertainment. If that policy is now intolerable, it may be the sport, and not Keegan, that is in difficulties. The statistics, in any case, are not quite so damning as is generally imagined. That spellbinding 4-3 defeat at Liverpool in April 1996 is viewed as proof of profligacy, but it is a misconception to assert that Newcastle always operated an open-door policy in defence. The side conceded 37 goals that season, just two more than Manchester United.

In fairness, one cannot readily imagine him rising eagerly to spend a wet winter's morning fine-tuning his back four's offside trap. He was shrewd enough, though, to recognise the boundaries of his management style and, after listening to the pleas of Dar-

ren Peacock, then centre half at Newcastle, eventually brought in Mark Lawrenson to coach the defence.

Should he follow Glenn Hoddle into the England post, Keegan will have assistants to whom he can delegate special duties. In any case, there is less need for a course of instruction when, for example, Tony Adams, Gareth Southgate and Sol Campbell are available to form the rear-guard. England stand in need not so much of tactical refinement as of a rekindling of the imagination.

Keegan, worn down by the incessant strain at Newcastle, might relish the intermittent nature of the international programme and, as he has demonstrated at Fulham, still excels at inspiring footballers and strengthening their sense of their own worth.

To achieve that at Newcastle in 1992, he improved facilities and began by fumigating the training ground complex. England's pristine premises are not in need of such extreme treatment, but there, too, Keegan might create a healthier atmosphere.

Wimbledon search for happy ending

By Russell Kempson

IT ALL began on January 16 in a flurry of bitterness and recrimination, with David Ginola, the Tottenham Hotspur winger, falling to ground in pursuit of a penalty — not once, but four times. Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, put on his most pained expression and lambasted the Frenchman for what he perceived as no more than theatrical deceit.

Part one of the five-match league-and-cup series between Tottenham and Wimbledon, compressed into 32 days, had not made the most promising of starts. No goals, four bookings and plenty of hot air in an FA Cup First Round replay, a contest of little worthiness. Mike Riley, the referee, was not amused by Ginola's antics, either, and deemed that none of his tumbles merited a spot kick. Riley was similarly unimpressed by John Hartson's shin-kicking tackle on Andy Sinton, the Tottenham winger, and booked the Wimbledon debutant.

The fare was grim, the mood foreboding. Perhaps surprisingly, the subsequent three episodes have been acted out in a climate of mutual respect. Familiarity appears not to have bred contempt — only four more cautions have been accrued — and the fixtures, apart from Tottenham's 3-0 win in the FA Cup fourth-round replay, have often lacked invention and sparkle.

Tonight, when the series concludes with the Worthington Cup semi-final second leg at Selhurst Park, it could be back to square one. Wimbledon beckons for the victors, after a 0-0 draw in the first leg, and neither side is likely to pass up the opportunity without the fiercest of scraps. It might not be an evening for connoisseurs of fine football or the faint of heart. Tottenham hold the psychological and statistical lead, and George Graham's arrival as manager in October having coincided with an upsurge in fortunes.

They are unbeaten in their past 11 matches and are unde-

feated in ten cup matches this season, having scored 25 goals. Wimbledon are without a victory in six outings and have scored only one goal in that period.

Kinnear is never usually happy unless he has something to moan about, but the injury problems afflicting his side have tested his patience to the full. A weekend away in Marlow, where his squad used the England training facilities at Bishop's Cleeve, has hardly eased his problems. Sean Eklou and Michael Hughes are missing tonight, while Marcus Gayle, Neal Ardley, Ben Thatcher, Carl Leaburn and Duncan Jupp are rated as doubtful. Hartson

STORY SO FAR

Aug 16: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 3 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Aug 23: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Aug 30: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Sep 6: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Sep 13: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Sep 20: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Sep 27: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Oct 4: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Oct 11: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Oct 18: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Oct 25: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Nov 1: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Nov 8: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Nov 15: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Nov 22: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Nov 29: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Dec 6: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Dec 13: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Dec 20: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Dec 27: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Jan 3: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Jan 10: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Jan 17: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Jan 24: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Jan 31: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Feb 7: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Feb 14: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Feb 21: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Feb 28: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Mar 6: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). 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Aug 7: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Aug 14: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Aug 21: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Aug 28: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Sep 4: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Sep 11: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Sep 18: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Sep 25: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Oct 2: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Oct 9: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hartson). Oct 16: Selhurst Park (league), Tottenham 1 (Ginola) v Wimbledon 0 (Ginola, Sinton, Hart

By DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

"Some of the quiet diplomacy of the past few months should bear fruit," Pugh said. "We hope for a settled game by early April. One of the things that continues to fire my enthusiasm is that there is an increasing sense of collective responsibility for developing the game and an understanding that self-interest cannot predominate against the overall interests of rugby union."



"What with Rugby World Cup, Europe and the new Six Nations, next season should be a sorting-out season. If there is a will for a British League, the right time to establish it is 2000-01. If you try and do it before then, you are breaking terms, conditions of participation. Next season can be used as a basis for selection. The season after would give a new tournament its own profile, not muddled by the competitions already in place."

■ **CRICKET:** Graeme Hick's three centuries in the triangular limited-overs international series in Australia have made him England's highest-ranked one-day batsman. The Worcestershire player has climbed 12 places to No 14 in the latest world ratings.

ATHLETICS

Student activity



SWIMMING

However, back in the Tollcross Park pool in Glasgow on Saturday for the seventh round of the World Cup, Whitehead swam 4sec off his best to finish third in the 200 metres breaststroke. He un-

A statement from Leicester said that a four-man committee, which included Peter Wheeler, the chief executive of Leicester, and Dean Richards, the director of rugby, accepted



BY MARK SOUSTER

Television cameras captured Healey stamping on Putt.



John Eales, the Australian captain, may miss the World Cup, which starts in October, after damaging tendons in his shoulder while lifting weights in a gymnasium. He will see a specialist today to determine the extent of the damage.

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

BOWLS

EGHAM TROPHY: All-England mixed inter-club championship: Last 16: Concordia vs Cumbria 83-80; Spelthorpe vs Wellesborough 86-52; North Walsham vs Bacles 91-64; Cherwell vs Picketts Lock 77-76; Cambridge Park vs Swindon Westacot 84-72; Fossefarms at Egham 85-74; Moorheat vs Worthing 83-76; Teignbridge vs Taun-

CRICKET

Second Innings	
J N Flanagan c Farley b Drakes	34
J K Maunders c L Morgan b Edwards	14
G R Hayward c and b Patel	7
M A Catterby c L Morgan b Patel	47
T A Wallace at R Morgan b L Morgan	8
N Swainston c Golder b Conesdale	9
J R Patrick not out	70
R Ball not out	4
Extras (b 7, nb 2)	9
Total (8 wickets dec, 34.3 overs)	142
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-30, 2-41, 3-87, 4-111, 5-120, 6-128.	
BOWLING: Rampling 5-3-21-0; Edwards	

2-0-16-1; R Mon
2-LINGTON: E

FALL OF WICKETS. 1-54, 2-121, 3-257, 4-282.

BOWLING: Whitley 4-1-5-0; Symington 21-6-50-1; Fearick 16-2-68-2; Haywood 18-5-40-1; Dawson 18-2-75-0; Renagan 13-5-20; Aldis 8-2-27-0.

Second Innings

S de Silva c Symington b Dawson 50
* L Morgan b Dawson 18
J Connelley run out 4
S Farley & b Dawson 0

Low b Davidson...
Frank b Haywood

W. D'Sa's hot out	25
I. Edwards c sub b Dawson	0
C. Ramping b Dawson	0
J Patel c and b Symington	10
Extras (to 2)	2
Total (37.5 overs)	152
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-54, 2-73, 3-73, 4-74, 5-74, 6-83, 7-123, 8-123, 9-129.	
BOWLING: Symington 5.5-0-25-1; Feenick 4-0-20-0; Dawson 15-2-44-7; Haywood 9-1-45-1; Plonagane 4-0-16-0.	
Umpires: R D S Alexander and I W Shute.	

GOLF

LA JOLLA, California: Buick International at Leading final scores (all United States): 288: T Woods 71, 82, 65, 288; W R Brown 69, 65, 68, 262; B Gossion 68, 67, 68, 67, 273; C Perry 66, 68, 72, 66; O Uresti 71, 66, 69, 67; K Sutherland 68, 68, 67, 70; L Roberts 70, 70, 68, 67; D Paulson 67, 64, 74, 70; S Simpson 71, 68, 66, 70; C Ray 72, 65, 68, 70.

HOCKEY

WOMEN'S EFL CUP: Semi-final draw:
Chelmsford v Bradford, Leicester v Clifton;
Hightown v Olton; Slough v Doncaster

ICE HOCKEY

FRENCH CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool three: Corcoran; La Rochelle 13 Brive 33.
TENNIS'S VELVET CUP: Semi-final draw: Gale v Mekrose; Boroughmst v Har-dy's FP v Kelsa. Shield: Semi-final draw: Jad-Forest v Satter, St Boswells v Gordons or Hawick; Lindon. Bowl: Semi-final

Form

to win



1

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100

THE
ON
FAN
FOR

By MARK SOUSTER

After the debacle at Lansdowne Road, it has been confirmed there will be no Lloyds TSB centre-pitch branding at Twickenham or Wembley on Saturday, although logos will be in place in the goal areas.

SCOTLAND SQUAD: Backs: G Armstrong (Newcastle Falcons), C Chalmers (Edinburgh Ravens), J Fairlie (Edinburgh Ravens), L Leslie (Glasgow Calsonic), K Logan (Wasps), S Longstaffe (Glasgow Calsonic), G Metcalfe (Glasgow Calsonic), C Murray (Edinburgh Ravens), Tait (Edinburgh Ravens), G Townsend (Brive). Forwards: S Brotherton (Edinburgh Ravens), G Bullock (Glasgow Calsonic), P Burgess (London Scottish), G Duff (Edinburgh Ravens), J Gifford (Bath), L Leslie (Edinburgh Ravens), Murray (Bedford), E Peters (Bath), Pounbury (Northampton), A Reid (Edinburgh), T Smith (Glasgow Calsonic), P Walton (Newcastle Falcons).

EXCLUSIVE COMPETITION THE TIMES

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**Plus £15,000 in cash prizes and
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THE TIMES
NatWest

**FANTASY
FORMULA
ONE**

**FOR FULL DETAILS
SEE PAGE 40**

CHANGING TIMES

Pakistan prepare for Asian series amid further controversy



Wasim is greeted by local children at practice at Eden Gardens yesterday, but his arrival has been overshadowed by fresh allegations of match-fixing

AFTER losing to India in Delhi nine days ago, Wasim Akram made two wishes. He arrived in Calcutta to discover both granted. While he knew already that two neutral umpires will officiate in the Asian Test Championship (ATC), which begins tomorrow when India take on Pakistan, he could not have imagined that his demand for a quicker pitch would be taken on board by the groundsmen at Eden Gardens seemingly to the letter.

Unfortunately for the Pakistan captain, final preparations were overtaken by further allegations of match-fixing. *Outlook*, a current affairs magazine based in Delhi, has published what it claims are extracts "edited for purposes of brevity" of the depositions of 16 witnesses to the continuing state inquiry in Lahore, conducted by Justice Malik Muhammad Qayyum.

Javed Miandad, the present coach, Asim Sohail, Rashid Latif and Imran Khan, former captains, and Intikhab Alam and Haroon Rashid, former managers, are among those quoted and Salim Malik and Wasim Akram, who have consistently pleaded innocence, figure large in testimony. The allegations also involve several other players.

Latif accuses Malik, also subject of the initial allegations from Mark Waugh and Shane Warne that brought the issue to the surface. He claims

Wasim's worries are off the pitch

FROM RICHARD HOBSON IN CALCUTTA

that he was called to Malik's room in Christchurch before a one-day international in 1994. Latif said: "Malik told me we had to lose the match as he had struck some deal with somebody about it. I was offered ten lakh rupees (around £15,000) by Malik. I told him I would think over the matter."

"There were also four or five other players and it was obvious that they must have been offered money. The next morning, when I took a catch off a batsman from New Zealand, Malik came to me and reprimanded me and reiterated that we have to lose the match."

"During the water break, I told Malik I was not a party to the fixing as I decided during the night not to accept any money." Latif, a wicketkeeper, also claimed that Wasim was involved. He said: "In my view, no-balls and wide balls were deliberately bowled by him [Wasim]. There was an imminent threat of the match being washed out due to rain, which led the bowlers to bowl

deliberately in a way that the scoring rate could be accelerated."

Testimony from Saleem Parvez, a bookmaker, relates to the Singer Cup one-day tournament in Sri Lanka in 1994. He said he had paid money to players "on behalf of someone" to fix the match. Javed refused to discuss the issue yesterday. According to *Outlook*, he said in his deposition: "I strongly recommend that the culprits be punished sternly. They should be banned for life and even if we have to sacrifice the whole team, we should do

so in order to salvage the country and the cricket team."

Under Pakistani law, the accused have the right to face and cross-examine their accusers at the judicial inquiry. It is now thought unlikely that Justice Qayyum will be able to disclose his findings to the Government until after the World Cup in June.

Wasim, who recently passed Imran's record of 362 Test wickets by a Pakistan bowler, declined to comment last night when he appeared at a press conference to promote the triangular competition, which also involves Sri Lanka.

Shaharyar Khan, the Pakistan manager, gave an official response. He said: "This is just another attempt at muck-raking. The matter is *sub judice* as far as we are concerned because it is the subject of a court hearing. I have talked to the players. I do not think it has had an effect. They have lived with this for so long they want to put it behind them. It is an example of how Pakistan is

looking at the matter that some of the players under investigation are on this tour."

Meanwhile, Mushtaq Ahmed has returned home because of a neck problem to be replaced by Arshad Khan, an off-spin bowler. However, Pakistan may be tempted to include another fast bowler, with Shoaib Akhtar, impressive in the three-day game against an Indian Board President's XI in Kochi last week, in that case likely to feature.

India are unhappy at the amount of grass that has been left on the pitch and both Mohammad Azharuddin, the captain, and Anshuman Gaekwad, the coach, have conveyed such feelings to the ground authority. A more constructive response will be to give a debut to Laxmi Ratan Shukla, 18, a pace-bowling all-rounder who hails from Bengal.

With the crowd at Eden Gardens potentially the most volatile in the country, security will be just as rigorous as it was in Madras and Delhi for the thrilling drawn Test series — although on this occasion spectators numbering at least 70,000 will be allowed to carry food and drinking water into the ground.

LINKS
WEBSITE: www.ukcricket.org/
www.krel.com
TELEVISION: First Channel (channel 20)

TEAMS

INDIA (from): S Ramchand, V V S Laxman, R Dravid, S R Tendulkar, M Azharuddin, S C Ganguly, N R Mongia, A Kumble, H H Singh, B K V Prasad, J Srinath, I R Shukla.
PAKISTAN (from): Saeed Anwar, Shoaib Akhtar, Ijaz Ahmed, Imran-ul-Haq, Yousuf Youhana, Salim Malik, Mon Khan, Wasim Akram, Wasim Younis, Sarfraz Mustaqim, Nadeem Khan, Shoaib Akhtar.
Umpires: S A Buxton (West Indies) and D L Orchard (South Africa)

Flintoff's progress fits the bill

FROM THRASY PETROPOULOS IN BULAWAYO

AFTER the successful negotiation of the international series, England A turn their attention today to the first of three one-day matches against Zimbabwe A. For Darren Maddy, the game at the Queens Sports Club here may be the last opportunity to influence his chances of inclusion in the World Cup.

Only Flintoff and Maddy on this A tour were named in England's provisional 30 for the tournament, a squad that is due to be reduced to 19 later this week and, finally, to 15 by the end of March.

Of the two, Flintoff is the more realistic to make the final cut, particularly now that he is bowling again, relatively free from the back pain that at times last season saw him unable to train and barely able to bat. The difference has been the loss of almost ten kilograms in weight and an intensive programme with Ann Brentnall, the A tour and Derbyshire physiotherapist.

"She's been doing stabilising work with me and it's got me bowling again," Flintoff said. "It's a different outlook; she's fresh, never having met me before. Every morning, she gives me rubs and we do work trying to strengthen the bottom of my back, not just the big muscles."

So far, Flintoff has completed 45 overs in matches on tour, with only minor stiffness the following mornings and with none of the pains that he describes as "like a dagger in the lower back". Consequently, England A have been able to field a balanced attack, playing both spinners.

Dawson's delivery decisive in victory

WELLINGTON (final day of three): England Under-19 beat Wellington Emerging Players by 96 runs

IN AN ideal world, Richard Dawson, the Yorkshire off-spinner, might have been given a rest for this match, considering his painful left thumb and the 160-odd overs that he has bowled on this tour so far (John Stern writes).

However, there were no complaints from Dawson or any of his England Under-19 team-mates after he took seven wickets for 44 to complete a 96-run victory four days before the decisive third international match against New Zealand in Alexandra.

The two captains decided to contrive a run chase in this game in order to sustain wan-

ing interest in the proceedings. Wellington declared on 314 for four, 106 behind England, who shuffled their batting order and lost six wickets in setting their hosts a target of 249 in minimum of 61 overs.

While Suresh de Silva, a wristy right-hander, was at the crease, driving and cutting with ease, the target was within reach. When he swept Dawson to deep square, the tide began to turn. A variety of slogs and diffident defensive shots confronted Dawson, who was extracting some turn and bounce on a sluggish wicket.

Only Scott Collier, who has played for the Wellington senior side, had much to say for himself, hitting two sixes and seven fours in his 41.

Scoreboard, page 45

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 43

LATION

(a) The action of moving, or the motion of a body from one place to another. Motion of translation. From the Latin (extremely irregular verb, *fero*, I bear, *ferre*, to carry, *latum*, 1690: "The Mundane System is considered having the Sun in the Centre, exempt from any motion of Lation.")

MOFF

(b) An instrument consisting of a pair of compasses, one leg of which is fashioned like the leg of a pair of callipers. "It is a cross, in fact, between compass and calliper; and its character of cross bred got it originally the name of hermaphrodite, which was corrupted into mophrodite, which has been shortened into moff."

LAGAN

(c) Goods or wreckage lying on the seabed. Cf. flotsam and jetsam. Perhaps of Scandinavian origin. "Prowling about the shore after the waifs of the storm, deserted jetsam and lagan."

MITCHELLA

(d) A genus of trailing evergreen herbs of the order Rubiaceae. A plant of this genus, eg Mitchellia repens, the partridge-berry.

SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE

1 Bg6! Nxe6: 2 Nf5+ Kf8: 3 Qg7 checkmate

TELEVISION CHOICE

It's gardening, Jim...

Home Front in the Garden
BBC2, 9.00pm

The infuriatingly cheerful Tessa Shaw (does nothing get on her nerves?) is back with more garden makeovers that have a lot to do with painting everything in sight in garish colours and not much about plants and flowers. The tone is set by the resident garden designer, Diarmuid (pronounced Dermot), Gavin, when he says he influenced more by *Star Trek* than Sissinghurst. Some of us, if we saw Diarmuid on the horizon, would draw the curtains, lock the doors and pretend to be out. But not Annette from Neasden in North London. She has seen Diarmuid on this show before, thinks he is the tops and cannot wait to let him loose on her spacious patch that is mostly groby lawn and weed-infested paving stones. The transformation is radical and, yes, colourful, and Sissinghurst it most definitely is not.

The Coroner
Channel 4, 9.00pm

A retired GP dies in a fire at his home, a 24-year-old man apparently hangs himself and an alcoholic is found dead by the warden of his sheltered housing. These are among the 5,000 deaths reported annually to the Birmingham City Coroner, Dr Richard Whittington. This four-part series is a documentary in the purest sense of the word, showing us in step-by-step detail how a coroner's investigation works and using actual cases to illustrate the process. The validity or otherwise of the system itself is not part of the agenda. In contrast to the BBC coroner played by Amanda Burton, Dr Whittington stays in the office and leaves his staff, all former police officers, to do the leg work. This is a film partly about procedures but also about the sad human stories behind the bodies in the mortuary.

Close Up: Collectors
BBC2, 9.30pm

Much of British contemporary art may be beyond the understanding of most of the population but it enjoys a high critical reputation and, relevant to this film, it is eagerly collected. Unlike the *Antiques Roadshow* programme is coy about prices but you guess that the hobby does not come



Jarvis Cocker explores the real art world in Journeys Into the Outside (CA, 11.05pm)

cheap. Why is it that the featured collectors tend to be bankers or IT managers rather than, say, school-teachers? The coverage is too scattered to present any strong conclusions but along the way we get a good idea of how the art business functions and a taste of what is currently fashionable. Among those showing their acquisitions are Damien Hirst's dentist and a woman who used art to get over her divorce. Hirst himself pops up to denounce art galleries and auction houses with equal venom.

Journeys Into the Outside
Channel 4, 11.05pm

When the pop star Jarvis Cocker was a student at a London art school he became obsessed by the gap between the academic perception of art and everyday life. His thoughts were nourished by a book called *Outside Out* which suggested that art could be made by people from all walks of life who did not think of themselves as artists. There was more to art than that which hung on gallery walls. In a three-part series Cocker sets out to substantiate this thesis, starting in France. He begins on the north coast where a priest carved more than 300 faces in the rock, tracks down a millman who has covered his house in broken crockery, meets a Ukrainian emigré with a passion for creating structures from rubbish and ends up at a palace built single-handedly by a village postman. Peter Waymark

RADIO CHOICE

The Directors
Radio 2, 10.00pm

The first series of *The Directors* had some revealing interviews with movie folk so it is good to see it back, starting tonight with Robert Redford in conversation with the presenter Mark Kermode. Redford comes across, not unexpectedly, as a thinking man with some clear ideas as to what movies ought to be achieving. His first experience as a director, the 1980 picture *Ordinary People*, came about because "I'd done too many films where I was at the mercy of a director who I felt didn't get it, or had a different view to I did... you give yourself to a director and they put it in a different context than you were expecting. That begins to build up a frustration. I thought, wait a minute, this is no good, do it yourself."

RADIO 1 (BBC)

5.30am Zoe Ball 8.00am Mark Goodier 12.00pm Kevin Greening 2.00pm Mark Radcliffe 4.00pm Chris Moyles 5.45pm Newsbeat 6.00pm Dave Pearce 8.00pm The Brits 9.30pm See Choice 12.00pm The Breakfast 2.00pm Chris Warren 4.00pm Scott Mills

RADIO 2 (BBC)

6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30am Wake Up to Wogan 9.30am Ken Bruce 12.00pm Richard Lacey 2.00pm Ed Stewart 5.05pm Johnnie Walker 7.00am Alan Freeman 7.00pm The Greatest Big 8.00pm Nigel Ogden 8.00pm World's Your Place, Please Help Me! 9.00pm The highs and lows of everyday life, looking at the advice business. 10.00pm The Directors. News six-part series. See Choice 10.30pm Richard Allinson 12.00pm Kabina Laskovich 3.00pm Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

5.00am Morning Report 6.00am Breakfast with Julian Worricker and Victoria Derbyshire 9.00am Nick Campbell 12.00pm The Sportszone 1.00pm Race and Co 4.00pm Dave 7.00pm News Extra. A full round-up and the main sports bulletin of the day. 7.30pm The Sportszone 1.00pm Newsbeat 2.00pm The Sportszone. Coverage of the Worthington Cup semi-final second-leg match 10.00pm Late Night Live with Nick Robinson 1.00am Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 9.00am Scott Chisholm 12.00pm The Big Boys Breakfast 1.00pm The Big Boys Breakfast 2.00pm The Big Boys Breakfast 3.00pm The Big Boys Breakfast 4.00pm The Big Boys Breakfast 5.00pm The Big Boys Breakfast 6.00pm The Big Boys Breakfast 7.00pm The Big Boys Breakfast 8.00pm The Big Boys Breakfast 9.00pm The Big Boys Breakfast 10.00pm The Big Boys Breakfast 11.00pm The Big Boys Breakfast 12.00pm The Big Boys Breakfast 1.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 2.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 3.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 4.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 5.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 6.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 7.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 8.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 9.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 10.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 11.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 12.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 1.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 2.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 3.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 4.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 5.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 6.00am The Big Boys Breakfast 7.00am The 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Country living is not for the faint-hearted

The country is a great place to live, which is easy to say, providing you don't actually have to live there yourself. In truth, living full-time in the country can be scarier than waking up and finding out you've spent the night with Peter Stringfellow. It may even be scarier than waking up and finding out that you are Peter Stringfellow.

Documentaries about guns in Moss Side and drugs in King's Cross create the impression that cities are Britain's crime magnets, but the spookiest crimes take place where there's nothing but wheat-fields and farm animals as far as the eye can see (some of those crimes might actually involve farm animals). The latest evidence comes in *Rosewater* (TV), a classy three-part psychological thriller starring Amanda Burton, Paul McGann and Zara Turner. Murder, deceit and obsession have been tautly woven together by

Caleb Ranson, making his debut as a television writer. Ben Bolt, directing, has milked it for mystery.

Burton descends on a Cotswold hamlet the same day as a young girl is murdered in the woods. The bed and breakfast she checks into is run by McGann, who has served a jail term for the murder of Burton's daughter — a crime which he may or may not have committed. The body, like *Knight Rider*, has never been found. He has since rebuilt his life: wife, child, a new name. But Burton has tracked him down and now threatens to cause havoc by exposing his secret past unless he confesses where her daughter's body is buried. McGann, still proclaiming his innocence, says he doesn't know. See how spooky the country gets.

Burton has a tough act to follow in Glenn Fatai's *Attraction Close*, but pulls off the trick of maintain-

ing a normal exterior that only occasionally betrays hints of the possibly psychotic menace beneath. She keeps us guessing as to whether she is just trying to expose her own ghosts, or whether she is a nuttier nuttier. I'd say.

McGann, too, hints at something hidden — a secret which may well be dark and horrid, or maybe he is in the same position as *The Fugitive*, a man torn between insisting "it wasn't me" on the one hand, and never bringing up the subject on the other. Zara Turner plays a familiar role: the sweet, supportive, reliable sidekick/wife/friend (she was a pathologist alongside John Hannah in *McCallum*, went along with husband Martin Clunes's desire to experiment with wife-swapping in *Touch and Go*, and was Fatai's Fatai's dependable friend in *Sliding Doors*). She is very good, very

REVIEW



Joe Joseph

watchable, but she's got this kind of role off pat. What about playing Sally Bowles in *Cabaret* next?

Further evidence of the dangers lurking in the countryside came in *The League of Gentlemen* (BBC2), which ended its first run of six programmes leaving us looking forward eagerly to their return for a new series, but also convinced us that remote spots like Royston Vasey — inhabited by

very scary human being-style people such as Uncle Harvey, the disastrous vet Mr Chinnery, a dodgy butcher and the transsexual cabbage Barber, many of whom may have had oatmeal surgically inserted into their brains — are "local" places, for "local" people, as the local shopkeepers Tubbs and Edward would say.

London's green commons are the metropolitan equivalents of the countryside, only compressed into smaller areas — a genetically mutated bonnet countryside, which occasionally results in warped forms of human activity. In *Cutting Edge: Clapham Common* (Channel 4), Paul Wivel avoided the temptation to focus purely on the thickets of gay men cruising for anonymous sex by moonlight, or lingering too long on what Ron Davies might or might not have been doing there last autumn, or on painting the common as a freaks' gallery of loopy loners

and dreamers. Instead he gave us an impressionistic portrait of a patch of London which many call home because often it may be the only home they know.

It's a magical place, and magical things happen here," were the first words we heard, spoken by a man on the prowl for a stranger. But the most magical thing that seemed to be happening was the regular daily gathering of men and women who have nowhere else to pass the time. So they cruise by night, or sit tea in the cafe, where the shelves are so bare — a few crisps, some K&M — that you'd think the place had just been burgled. "Man is a herd animal," sighed one of the old men, returning home because the cafe had shut for the night. "We're not meant to be alone." And yet most of these people — there were exceptions: a dancing couple, footballers, families playing — were

alone. Even when they were among crowds, or sweaty with sex. "I've never met anyone who is not a romantic," said a young man, waiting to be picked up by someone whose name he would never find out. "It's not having sex with somebody, it's having that closeness with somebody you can wake up with and be glad you're waking up with." The haunting soundtrack and the grainy green images created by night-filming reinforced the impression of people whose lives are somehow not fully in focus.

Wivel turned what could have been a smirked gawp into a sympathetic, often amusing film, which suggested that Clapham Common — much like the world beyond — is a place where individuals fuse and collide more or less randomly, eking out happiness where they can find it. I blame all that spooky greenery. You certainly wouldn't catch me on it.

- BBC1**
- 6.00am Business Breakfast (12790)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (1) (55719)
9.00 Kilroy (1) (595177)
9.45 The Vanessa Show (1) (4282652)
10.55 News: Weather (1) (6427516)
11.00 Change That New Series (6347993)
11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (1) (6334852)
11.55 News: Weather (1) (1524239)
12.00pm Call the Midwife (1) (56158)
12.30 Wipeout (4667041)
12.55 The Weather Show (1) (4815903)
1.00 One O'Clock News (1) (68806)
1.30 Regional News: Weather (4702871)
1.40 Neighbours Hannah bids farewell to Erinsborough (1) (25698326)
2.05 Inside the Chief investigates the murder of a musician (1) (3818887)
2.55 Body Spies (1) (516217)
3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (6065806)
3.45 The Enchanted Lands: The Adventures of the Wishing Chair (2875210) 3.55 Hubba (5787622) 4.10 Chompies: Go to the Movies (5257161)
4.35 The Really Wild Show (5777871)
5.00 Newsround (2224239) 5.10 Grange Hill (686581)
5.33 Rewind (1) (974055)
5.35 Neighbours (1) (388500)
6.00 Six O'Clock News: Weather (1) (53)
6.30 Regional News Magazine (887)
7.00 Holiday Jill Dando is in Malaysia and Kate Humble rides her bike through India (1) (8784)
7.30 EastEnders Concor confides in Phil about Ruth's pregnancy (1) (871)
8.00 Holby City: Nick's priorities are called into question (1) (5351)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News: Regional News: Weather (1) (7603)
9.30 Workers at War Disgruntled former employees tell their stories (1) (74808)
10.00 Inside Story The effects of America's gun culture on youngsters (1) (84210)

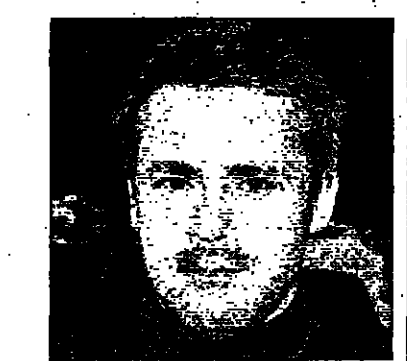


Clint Eastwood stars as a prisoner determined to escape (10.55pm)

- 10.55 Escape from Alcatraz (1979) A convict makes a daring attempt to break out of the high-security prison. Starring Clint Eastwood and Patrick McGeehan. Directed by Don Siegel (1) (8924581)
12.40am Confrontation (1989) A tough police officer, serving a jail sentence, attempts to prevent a inmate from taking in with the wrong crowd. With Jon Voight. Rod Holcomb directs (258098)
2.10 Weather (1) (76007)
2.15 BBC News 24 (5284388)

- WALES**
- 9.30 Week in, Week Out (1) (74806) 10.00 The Next Files (3/5) (51893) 10.10 Workers at War (1) (71887) 10.40 Inside Story (5/5) (1) (264003) 11.35 FILM: Escape from Alcatraz (1) (645516) 12.00am FILM: Confrontation (1) (84210) 2.50 News Headlines (1) (4162727) 2.55 BBC News 24 (72024630)

- BBC2**
- 7.00am Children's BBC Breakfast Show: The Little Polar Bear (304326) 7.05 Teletubbies (596896) 7.30 Snorks (577894) 7.50 Blue Peter (573055) 8.20 Taz-Mania (7025215) 8.40 Dot Stars (3881264) 8.50 Oakie Doke (3887448) 9.00 German Globo (602887) 9.05 Hallo aus Berlin (6021158) 9.10 Working It Out (633455) 9.25 Techno (4628784) 9.45 Numbers (1) (188100) 10.00 Teletubbies (29429) 10.30 Watch (2715055) 10.45 Teaching Today (581177) 11.15 Mega-maths (7965626) 11.35 Words and Pictures (8597806) 11.50 History File (6041055) 12.10pm English Express (5471784) 12.30 Working Lunch (58784) 1.00 Oakie Doke (3413883)
1.10 The Travel Hour The delights of the Basque country (1) (9727055)
2.10 Sporting Greats (6194624)
2.40 News: Weather (1) (3135142)
2.45 Westminster (1) (288784)
3.25 News: Weather (1) (1903682)
3.30 Awash with Colour (993)
4.00 Kaye Advice show (616617)
4.25 Ready, Steady, Cook (1) (6188264)
4.55 Esther's Mothers-in-law (1) (3403245)
5.30 Today's Day (1) (264)
6.00 The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air Carlton and Will go camping (1) (1) (335222)
6.25 Heartbreak High Sarah has a shock in store for Ryan (1) (882249)
7.10 The O Zone Jayne Middlemiss meets Britney Spears (1) (340974)
7.30 From the Edge A look at issues affecting disabled people (1) (413)
8.00 University Challenge Oriel College Oxford v Manchester University (1) (8974)
8.30 Rick Stein's Seafood Odyssey The chef journeys to Thailand (1) (4581)
9.00 HOME Front in the Garden New series in which garden designer Diarmuid Gavin offers tips on creating a horticultural haven (1) (5245)



Damian Hirst offers his views on galleries and auctions (9.30pm)

- 9.30 CHOICE Close Up New series. Collectors of contemporary art discuss their reasons for buying such controversial pieces (1) (168448)
10.20 Coming Clean: The Truth About Housework (1) (142055)
10.35 Newsnight (1) (515446)
11.15 Seinfeld George mixes business with pleasure (1) (667041)
11.35 The Larry Sanders Show Arthur loses an expensive gift (1) (581429)
12.00am Despatch Box (82140)
12.30 BBC Learning Zone: Open University: Living with Technology 1.30 Traps and How to Get Out of Them 2.00 Schools: Special Needs: Ghostwriter: 4.00 Languages: Suenos World Spanish 5.00 Business and Training: Career Moves 5.45 Open University: Pilgrimage — The Shrine at Loretto 6.10 Frederick the Great and Sans Souci 6.35 Talking Note

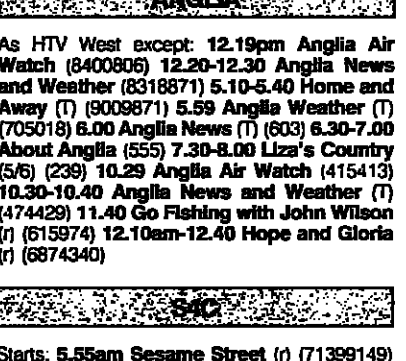
- HTV**
- 5.30am ITN Morning News (52852)
6.00 GMTV (291318)
9.25 Trisha (1) (5316603)
10.30 This Morning (1) (11340210)
12.15pm ITN Lunchtime News (1) (7826239)
12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (1) (78210)
1.00 Shortland Street Johnny makes a momentous decision (53974)
1.30 Home and Away What is Robert up to? (1) (75581)
2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (1) (5661142)
2.45 Supermarket Sweep (1) (851448)
3.15 ITN News Headlines (1) (3703644)
3.20 HTV News (1) (6653167)
3.25 CITV: Cartoon Time (4579790) 3.50 The Wombles (2881871) 4.00 Rupert (6153603) 4.25 Mike and Angelo (6114239) 4.50 How 2 (7481852)
5.10 A Country Practice Ian MacIntyre impresses Darcy (9003871)
5.10 ITN Early Evening News (1) (780149)
5.59 HTV CrimeStoppers (705018)
6.00 Home and Away (1) (339448)
6.25 WALKS: Wales Tonight (1) (770968)
6.25 WEST: HTV Weather (598784)
6.30 WEST: The West Tonight (1) (555)
7.00 Emmerdale Chris tries to make Kathy jealous (1) (3852)
7.30 WEST: West Eye View A report on a new nationwide initiative aimed at raising awareness of the dangers to children from paedophiles (239)
7.30 WALKS: Flashback's Wild Tracks The Vale of Glamorgan (1) (239)



Tottenham Hotspur's Chris Armstrong and David Ginola (8pm)

- 8.00 The Big Match — Lurel Wimbledon v Tottenham Hotspur in the Worthington Cup semi-final second-leg (kick-off 8.05pm). Bob Wilson presents the action from Selhurst Park. In the event of extra time, subsequent programmes are subject to change (1) (1535)
10.00 News at Ten: Weather (1) (59055)
10.30 HTV News and Weather (1) (474429)
10.40 The Real Life Monty Six male strippers from Essex (1) (292622)
11.00 WEST: Pleasure Guide Regional entertainment magazine (1) (515974)
11.40 WALKS: Anatomy of Disaster Intense storms and immense waves (312245)
12.10am Tales from the Crypt A plantation owner uses a voodoo potion to ensure a rich heiress. Spooky story, with DW Moffett and Pamela Gier (1) (824340)
12.40 The Haunted Flatmate (5486307)
1.10 Highlander An evil immortal threatens to bring anarchy to Europe (1) (7800388)
2.05 Planet Rock Profiles With Texan singer songwriter Lyle Lovett (7600036)
2.35 Wish You Were Here (1) (8641888)
3.05 Judge Judy (1) (55356104)
3.25 Football Extra Football League highlights (1) (383882)
4.20 Coach Hayden tries to reason with Luther (3833933)
4.45 ITV Nightvision (1575307)

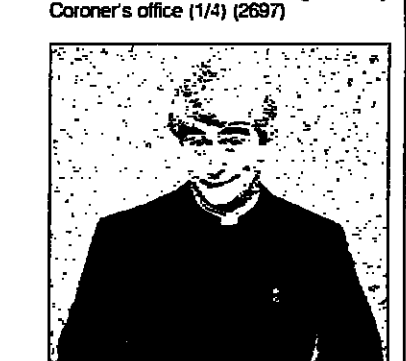
- CENTRAL**
- As HTV West except: 12.20pm-12.30 Central News: Weather (1) (6318871) 1.00 Heart of the Country (1/18) (1) (53974) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (1) (555332) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (1) (852177) 3.20-3.25 Central News (1) (653167) 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (505871) 6.25-7.00 Central News: Weather (1) (6318871) 7.30-8.00 Landlady (1) (239) 10.30-10.40 Central News: Weather (1) (474429) 11.40-12.40 Renegade (312245) 2.55am Jack and Judy (3883833) 3.15 Football Extra (1) (8672630) 4.10 Central Jobfinder '99 (1) (4057807) 5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (7227272)
- WEST-COUNTRY**
- As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.27 Westcountry News: Weather (1) (7826239) 12.27-12.30 Illuminations (8499790) 1.00 Emmerdale (1) (53974) 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (1) (555332) 2.15-2.45 Home and Away (1) (852177) 3.20-3.25 Westcountry News: Weather (1) (653167) 5.08 Birthday People (510587) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1) (852177) 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (1) (64429) 7.30-8.00 Wild West Country (5/5) (1) (239) 10.30-10.40 Westcountry News: Weather (1) (474429) 11.40-12.40 An Audience with All Saints (312245)
- MERIDIAN**
- As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.30 Meridian News: Weather (7926239) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1) (852177) 5.59 Angela Weather (1) (70519) 6.00-7.00 Meridian News: Weather (1) (70519) 7.30-8.00 Meridian News: Weather (1) (70519) 8.00-9.00 Meridian News: Weather (1) (70519) 9.00-10.00 Meridian News: Weather (1) (70519) 10.30-10.40 Meridian News: Weather (1) (70519) 11.40 Cyber Cafe (615974) 12.10am-12.40 Hope and Gloria (6874340) 5.00-5.30 Freescreen (1) (25949)
- ANGLIA**
- As HTV West except: 12.15pm Anglia Air Watch (8400805) 12.20-12.30 Anglia News and Weather (8318871) 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (1) (852177) 5.59 Angela Weather (1) (70519) 6.00-7.00 Anglia News: Weather (1) (70519) 7.30-8.00 Anglia News: Weather (1) (70519) 8.00-9.00 Anglia News: Weather (1) (70519) 9.00-10.00 Anglia News: Weather (1) (70519) 10.30-10.40 Anglia News: Weather (1) (70519) 11.40 Go Fishing with John Wilson (1) (615974) 12.10am-12.40 Hope and Gloria (1) (6874340)



The late Dermot Morgan stars in a comedy double bill (10pm)

- Starts: 5.55am Sesame Street (1) (71399149) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (3408024) 9.00 The Big Breakfast: Saved by the Bell (20492622) 9.30 Sam and Max (1) (1009055) 9.55 Earle, Indiana: The Other Dimension (1) (10170974) 10.25 Planet Pop (57094142) 10.50 Moesha (50813974) 11.20 Madison (53171332) 11.45 The Big Breakfast (59181993) 12.00pm Bewitched (1) (29489158) 12.30 Sesame Street (1) (38227245) 1.00 Planet Pop (1) (3409351) 1.30 Earthshakes (5749055) 1.35 FILM: Uncle Silas (1) (80479332) 3.30 Collectors' Lot (1) (81922429) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (1) (81934264) 4.30 Ricki Lake (1) (8193448) 5.00 Planned Planet (64348239) 5.30 Countdown (1) (81841500) 6.00 Newyddion 6 (1) (54226822) 6.10 Heno (1) (6109429) 7.00 Rebel y Cwm (1) (64424630) 7.30 Newyddion (1) (81931177) 8.00 Y Sioe Gelf (1) (8433351) 8.30 Pengelli (1) (6442158) 9.00 Cutting Edge (88016041) 10.00 Brookside (1) (80058968) 10.35 Boyz Unlimited (1) (5653806) 11.05 Riddle of the Skies (1) (8089500) 12.05am FILM: A Home of Our Own (40845386) 2.00 Diddid

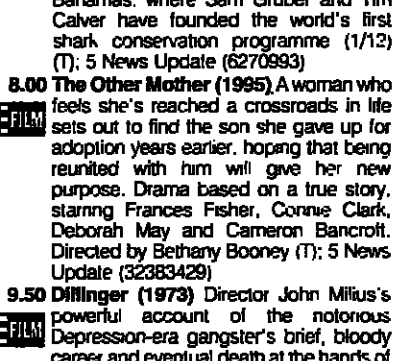
- CHANNEL 4**
- 5.40am Rat-a-Tat-Tat (3755790)
5.55 Sesame Street (3597803)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (58429)
9.00 The Bigger Breakfast: Saved by the Bell (32332)
9.30 Sam and Max (8278852)
9.55 Earle, Indiana: The Other Dimension (1) (258871)
10.25 Planet Pop (1177535)
10.50 Moesha (1) (2445351)
11.20 Madison (3169089)
11.45 The Bigger Breakfast (5888158)
12.00pm Sesame Street (1) (56968)
12.30 Bewitched (1) (74852)
1.30 Pet Rescue (1) (51516)
1.30 The Ocean World of John Stoneman Changes in the environment (1) (79351)
2.10 Travelog Treks (1) (35173871)
2.10 The Mark of Zorro (TVM 1974) Remake of the 1940 classic, with Frank Langella. Don McDougall directs (1) (8191513)
3.30 Collectors' Lot A collection of candle snuffers (1) (531)
4.00 Fifteen-to-One (1) (968)
4.30 Countdown (1) (5761210)
4.55 Ricki Lake Teens who suffer from obesity (1) (3325413)
5.30 Pet Rescue (1) (332)
6.00 Dishes Dating show with a culinary theme (1) (245)
6.30 Home Improvement After a cruel Halloween trick, Tim and Jill wreak revenge on Brad and Randy (1) (897)
7.00 Channel 4 News: Weather (1) (804784)
7.50 Zoom Donald Christie meets menswear designer Jeff Griffin (1) (493210)
8.00 Brookside Tim tries to convince DS Rose of his innocence (1) (7582)
8.30 Carry On Snogging A light-hearted look at the social and sexual changes which occurred during 20 years of Carry On films (1) (2177)
9.00 CHOICE The Coroner New series. The work of the Birmingham City Coroner's office (1/4) (2697)



The late Dermot Morgan stars in a comedy double bill (10pm)

- 10.00 Father Ted The priests organise a raffle (1) (1) (57697)
10.30 Father Ted An important ceremony looms (1) (1) (49603)
11.05 CHOICE Journeys Into the Outside With Jarvis Cocker The Pulp frontman explores the extraordinary architecture of France (1/3) (1) (586185)
12.05am L.827 (1992) Documentary-style drama charting a Pansonic cop's efforts to crack down on drug dealers. Directed by Bertrand Tavernier (7475307)
2.45 Aux Pays Bas (1991) A youth who can't afford to visit his girlfriend hurls a school bus and sets off to see her. French drama, starring Yvan Attal. Directed by Eric Rohmer (904104)
4.35 Aristophanes: The Gods Are Laughing Drama based on the life of the Greek playwright (1) (1) (4156748)

- CHANNEL 5**
- 6.00am 5 News and Sport A round-up of current events (6387210)
7.00 WideWorld Part three. How chemistry has played a part in creative human endeavour (1) (1) (6805351)
7.30 Milkshake! (1149185)
7.35 Wildlife's House (1) (6087177)
8.00 Hawkland (1) (643551)
8.30 Dappledawn Farm (1) (4832622)
9.00 Instant Gardens (1) (1532158)
9.25 Russell Grant's Postcards (1) (267429)
9.30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6830413)
10.20 Sunset Beach Sean tells Emily he loves her (1) (1910806)
11.10 Leeza (4294239)
12.00pm 5 News at Noon (1) (4730210)
12.30 Family Affairs Roy acknowledges Claire (1) (1) (5) News Update (8782784)
1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful Brooke demands the truth about Taylor and Ridge (1) (8804822)
1.30 The Roseanne Show Entertainment and chat: 5 News Update (9781055)
2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (5337784)
2.30 Good Afternoon Lifestyle magazine, 5 News Update (1633264)
3.30 Once Upon a Family (1980) A selfish family man's wife walks out, leaving him to face up to his fatherly responsibilities. Drama, starring Barry Scobie. Directed by Richard Michaels (1) (9574326)
5.20 Sunset Beach Show earlier (1) (1) (5) News Update (6144167)
6.00 100 Per Cent Gold (627429)
6.30 Family Affairs Cat ponders Dave's sudden lack of interest (1) (6178581)
7.00 5 News: Weather (1) (5831500)
7.30 Champions of Nature New wildlife documentary series focusing on biologists and animal activists around the world who have dedicated their lives to the study of endangered species. The opening programme takes viewers to the Bahamas, where Sam Gruber and Tim Caver have founded the world's first shark conservation programme (1/12) (1) (5) News Update (6276933)
8.00 The Other Mother (1995) A woman who feels she's resented a crossroads in life sets out to find the son she gave up for adoption years earlier, hoping that being reunited with him will give her new purpose. Drama based on a true story, starring Frances Fisher, Connor Clark, Deborah May and Cameron Bancroft. Directed by Bethany Boony (1) (5) News Update (8283429)
9.50 Dillinger (1973) Director John Milius's powerful account of the notorious Depression-era gangster's brief, bloody career and eventual death at the hands of the law enforcement agent Melvin Purvis. Warren Oates, Michelle Phillips and Ben Johnson star. Directed by John Milius (1) (5) News Update (2337110)
11.50 The Jack Docherty Show With guests Lorraine Kelly, Tony Blackburn and Adam Bloom (7720448)
12.30am Live and Dangerous (34364833)
3.45 Asian Football Show (314901)
4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H Judy receives bad news and Rachel takes over in the kitchen (1) (707843)
5.30 100 Per Cent Gold (1) (8722340)



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- For further listings see Saturday's Vision
- SKY ONE**
- 7.00am Court Duckula (1997) 7.30 The Chris Evans Breakfast Show (1) (55719)
8.00am 8.30am Flash Gordon (25318) 10.00 News: Weather (1) (6427516)
10.55 News: Weather (1) (6427516)
11.00 Mollie (1) (11588) 1.30 Lady (1) (11588) 2.00 Lady (1) (11588) 2.30 Lady (1) (11588) 3.00 Lady (1) (11588) 3.30 Lady (1) (11588) 4.00 Lady (1) (11588) 4.30 Lady (1) (11588) 5.00 Lady (1) (11588) 5.30 Lady (1) (11588) 6.00 Lady (1) (11588) 6.30 Lady (1) (11588) 7.00 Lady (1) (11588) 7.30 Lady (1) (11588) 8.00 Lady (1) (11588) 8.30 Lady (1) (11588) 9.00 Lady (1) (11588) 9.30 Lady (1) (11588) 10.00 Lady (1) (11588) 10.30 Lady (1) (11588) 11.00 Lady (1) (11588) 11.30 Lady (1) (11588) 12.00 Lady (1) (11588) 12.30 Lady (1) (11588) 1.00 Lady (1) (11588) 1.30 Lady (1) (11588) 2.00 Lady (1) (11588) 2.30 Lady (1) (11588) 3.00 Lady (1) (11588) 3.30 Lady (1) (11588) 4.00 Lady (1) (11588) 4.30 Lady (1) (11588) 5.00 Lady (1) (11588) 5.30 Lady (1) (11588) 6.00 Lady (1) (11588) 6.30 Lady (1) (11588) 7.00 Lady (1) (11588) 7.30 Lady (1) (11588) 8.00 Lady (1) (11588) 8.30 Lady (1) (11588) 9.00 Lady (1) (11588) 9.30 Lady (1) (11588) 10.00 Lady (1) (11588) 10.30 Lady (1) (11588) 11.00 Lady (1) (11588) 11.30 Lady (1) (11588) 12.00 Lady (1) (11588) 12.30 Lady (1) (11588) 1.00 Lady (1) (11588) 1.30 Lady (1) (11588) 2.00 Lady (1) (11588) 2.30 Lady (1) (11588) 3.00 Lady (1) (11588) 3.30 Lady (1) (11588) 4.00 Lady (1) (11588) 4.30 Lady (1) (11588) 5.00 Lady (1) (11588) 5.30 Lady (1) (11588) 6.00 Lady (1) (11588) 6.30 Lady (1) (11588) 7.00 Lady (1) (11588) 7.30 Lady (1) (11588) 8.00 Lady (1) (11588) 8.30 Lady (1) (11588) 9.00 Lady (1) (11588) 9.30 Lady (1) (11588) 10.00 Lady (1) (11588) 10.30 Lady (1) (11588) 11.00 Lady (1) (11588) 11.30 Lady (1) (11588) 12.00 Lady (1) (11588) 12.30 Lady (1) (11588) 1.00 Lady (1) (11588) 1.30 Lady (1) (11588) 2.00 Lady (1) (11588) 2.30 Lady (1) (11588) 3.00 Lady (1) (11588) 3.30 Lady (1) (11588) 4.00 Lady (1) (11588) 4.30 Lady (1) (11588) 5.00 Lady (1) (11588) 5.30 Lady (1) (11588) 6.00 Lady (1) (11588) 6.30 Lady (1) (11588) 7.00 Lady (1) (11588) 7.30 Lady (1) (11588) 8.00 Lady (1) (11588) 8.30 Lady (1) (11588) 9.00 Lady (1) (11588) 9.30 Lady (1) (11588) 10.00 Lady (1) (11588) 10.30 Lady (1) (11588) 11.00 Lady (1) (11588) 11.30 Lady (1) (11588) 12.00 Lady (1) (11588) 12.30 Lady (1) (11588) 1.00 Lady (1) (11588) 1.30 Lady (1) (11588) 2.00 Lady (1) (11588) 2.30 Lady (1) (11588) 3.00 Lady (1) (11588) 3.30 Lady (1) (11588) 4.00 Lady (1) (11588) 4.30 Lady (1) (11588) 5.00 Lady (1) (11588) 5.30 Lady (1) (11588) 6.00 Lady (1) (11588) 6.30 Lady (1) (11588) 7.00 Lady (1) (11588) 7.30 Lady (1) (11588) 8.00 Lady (1) (11588) 8.30 Lady (1) (11588) 9.00 Lady (1) (11588) 9.30 Lady (1) (11588) 10.00 Lady (1) (11588) 10.30 Lady (1) (11588) 11.00 Lady (1) (11588) 11.30 Lady (1) (11588) 12.00 Lady (1) (11588) 12.30 Lady (1) (11588) 1.00 Lady (1) (11588) 1.30 Lady (1) (11588) 2.00 Lady (1) (11588) 2.30 Lady (1) (11588) 3.00 Lady (1) (11588) 3.30 Lady (1) (11588) 4.00 Lady (1) (11588) 4.30 Lady (1) (11588) 5.00 Lady (1) (11588) 5.30 Lady (1) (11588) 6.00 Lady (1) (11588) 6.30 Lady (1) (11588) 7.00 Lady (1) (11588) 7.30 Lady (1) (11588) 8.00 Lady (1) (11588) 8.30 Lady (1) (11588) 9.00 Lady (1) (11588) 9.30 Lady (1) (1158

